**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-088
Wednesday
6 May 1992

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-088 CONTENTS *6 May 1992*

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Environment *[Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES 30 Apr]* 1

INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

Military Base Removal From Pacific Area Sought *[KYODO]* 4
PRC Academic Reiterates Stand on Spratly Islands *[BERNAMA]* 4
Asia-Pacific Scholars Open Environment Meeting *[KYODO]* 4
Meeting Ends, Issues Declaration *[KYODO]* 4

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

U.S. Revocation of Antitrust Decision Sought *[KYODO]* 5
Hata Suggests Providing ODA to CIS Republics *[KYODO]* 5
Michio Watanabe Returns Home From CIS Trip *[KYODO]* 5
Miyazawa, Watanabe Brief Leaders on Visits *[KYODO]* 5
Shanghai Mayor Arrives in Osaka for Celebration *[KYODO]* 6
Miyazawa: Peacekeeping Bill Issue Top Priority *[KYODO]* 6
Keidanren Asks Tokyo To Boost Science Spending *[KYODO]* 7
Health, Welfare Ministry on Household Statistics *[KYODO]* 7
Continuing 'Dwindling Birthrates' at Postwar Low *[KYODO]* 7
Inspection System for Environmental Issues Urged *[KYODO]* 8
Compromise Proposal on Environment Supported *[KYODO]* 8

North Korea

Ministry Spokesman Discusses Report to IAEA *[Pyongyang Radio]* 8
Inventory Said To Show 13 Unknown Nuclear Sites *[AFP]* 9
Plutonium Reportedly Produced at Yongbyon *[KYODO]* 10
Members of Delegation to Premiers Talks Listed *[KCNA]* 10
Premier Addresses South-Hosted Dinner in Seoul *[KCNA]* 10
First Day of 7th N-S High-Level Talks Reported *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
Chinese Party Workers' Delegation Visits *[Pyongyang Radio]* 11
WPK Delegation Departs for PRC *[KCNA]* 12
Japanese Remarks on Nuclear Inspection Criticized *[KCNA]* 12
Japanese Party Group To Inspect Tumen River Arrives *[KCNA]* 12
South Demonstrations Over U.S. Riots Reported *[KCNA]* 12
South Urged To Implement Documents Faithfully *[KCNA]* 13
Article Views Aspects of Criminal Code *[KCNA]* 13
Party Secretary Speaks at May Day Ceremony *[Pyongyang Radio]* 16

South Korea

Safety Measures Ordered for Los Angeles Koreans *[THE KOREA HERALD 2 May]* 20
Daily: U.S. Must Make Race Relations Priority *[THE KOREA TIMES 2 May]* 21
Pyongyang Agrees to Nuclear Inspection Schedule *[YONHAP]* 22
North's IAEA Report Reveals New Facilities *[Seoul Radio]* 22
Enriched Uranium Plants in DPRK Confirmed *[Seoul Radio]* 22
DPRK Admits Producing Plutonium at Yongbyon *[Seoul Radio]* 23

Yon Hyong-muk Proposes Reunions of N-S Elderly *[YONHAP]* 23
Premiers Agree on Exchange of Visiting Groups *[Seoul Radio]* 23
North's Premier Not To Meet With President No *[YONHAP]* 24
N-S Agree on Joint Committee, Liaison Office *[Seoul Radio]* 24
South, North 'Likely To Sign' Agreements 7 May *[YONHAP]* 24
Chong Won-sik's 6 May Keynote Address Reported *[YONHAP]* 24
Documents on KAL 007 Downing Said Missing *[YONHAP]* 25
Chinese Sports Minister, Delegates Depart 2 May *[YONHAP]* 25
PRC Boats Fish in Area Near Demarcation Line *[TONG-A ILBO 3 May]* 26

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Reaffirms Defense Cooperation With U.S. *[BERNAMA]* 27
    Position Hailed *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 1 May]* 27
Mahathir Begins Two-Day Visit to Sabah 30 Apr *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 28
Sabah Party's Return to National Front Ruled Out *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 2 May]* 28
Mahathir: UMNO Against Imposition of Islamic Laws *[NEW SUNDAY TIMES 3 May]* 28
    PAS 'Politicizing' Issue *[Kuala Lumpur International]* 29

Cambodia

SNC Member Receives U.S. Envoy Twining *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 29
Sihanouk Returns to Phnom Penh 6 May *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 29
Chairman Hun Sen's Recent Activities Reported 30
    Meets Japanese Minister *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
    Tours Kompong Cham Province *[SPK]* 30
    Opens National Development Institute *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
Sar Kheng Briefs Diplomats on Party Meeting *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
Heng Samrin Inaugurates Buddhist School *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 30
Comprehensive Administrative Role Urged for SNC *[Radio VGNUFC]* 31
Journal Hails CPP, SOC Human Rights Promotion *[PRACHEACHON 26 Apr]* 32
Akashi Comments on UNTAC Deployment *[SPK]* 32
UNHCR Forced To Scale Down Repatriation *[Radio VOK]* 33
Phnom Penh Calls for Nine Border Checkpoints *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 33
Khmer Rouge Captures 3 Kompong Thom Villages *[AFP]* 33

Indonesia

Burmese Crisis Assumes 'International Dimension' *[Jakarta Radio]* 34
First Contingent of Forces Returns From Kuwait *[ANTARA]* 34
Minister Opens Country's First Islamic Bank *[ANTARA]* 34
Police Halt Moslem Group Seminar on Human Rights *[AFP]* 34

Laos

Gratis Rice Aid From Japan Granted *[Vientiane Radio]* 35
154 Refugees Return Home From Thailand *[Vientiane Radio]* 35
Foreign Aid for Communications Work Discussed *[KPL]* 35
Khamtai Siphandon Meets Xieng Khouang Officials *[KPL]* 35
Instruction Issued on Enterprise Registration *[Vientiane Radio]* 35
Women's Union Head Views Foreign Aid for Women *[KPL]* 36

Philippines

Kuwait Grants Infrastructure Loan *[MALAYA 6 May]* 36
Government Lifts Ban on Workers Going to Libya *[Manila Radio]* 37

Communist Rebels Admit Killing Cagayan Candidate *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 6 May]* 37
Cagayan Politicians Pledge Peaceful, Clean Polls *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 6 May]* 37
Election Body Accredits Six Political Parties *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 3 May]* 38
    Places Quezon City Under its Control *[Manila Radio]* 39
Police Chief Accuses Communists of Poll Violence *[Quezon City Radio]* 39
Religious Sect Endorses Cojuangco, Estrada *[Manila Radio]* 39
Foreign Debt Increases to $29.95 Billion in 1991 *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 4 May]* 39

Thailand

Relations To Be Established With Two Republics *[Bangkok Radio]* 40
Reportage on Suchinda Premiership, Chamlong Fast 40
    Daily Urges Suchinda To Step Down *[THE NATION 6 May]* 40
    Suchinda Refuses To Resign *[BANGKOK POST 6 May]* 41
    Suchinda-Chamlong Confrontation Viewed *[BANGKOK POST 6 May]* 41
    Boycott From Opposition Seen *[BANGKOK POST 6 May]* 42
Paper Looks at 'Month of Suchinda' *[THE NATION 6 May]* 43
Some 30,000 Join Protest Rally at Parliament *[Bangkok Radio]* 44
Meeting Called To Review Peace-Keeping Force *[BANGKOK POST 5 May]* 44
Political Crisis Raises Fears of Financial Crash *[BANGKOK POST 6 May]* 44
Broadcast News Censorship by Military *[THE NATION 1 May]* 45

Vietnam

China's Jiang Zemin Meets With Nguyen Van Linh *[VNA]* 48
Vo Van Kiet, Japanese Minister Discuss Trade *[VNA]* 48
Le Quang Dao Discusses Visit to Japan, Trade *[Hanoi International]* 48
Cuban Foreign Minister Feted by Nguyen Manh Cam *[VNA]* 49
Cuban Communist Party Delegates Visit 21-30 Apr *[VNA]* 49
Mahathir Interviewed on Cooperation Prospects *[Hanoi TV]* 49
Hanoi Hails Official Mahathir Visit to Vietnam *[Hanoi Radio]* 50
Postal Conference With Laos, Cambodia Ends *[VNA]* 51
Heavy Industry Ministry Licenses Joint Ventures *[VNA]* 51
Nguyen Duy Nien Visits Kuwait, UAE, Oman *[VNA]* 51
'Lenient' Public Malfeasance Sentences Viewed *[NHAN DAN 18 Mar]* 52
Council of Ministers Holds Regular April Meeting *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
Council of State Issues Communique on Meeting *[Hanoi Radio]* 54
12-Day Seminar on Economy Ends 1 May *[AFP]* 55
Ho Chi Minh City Meeting To Mark Liberation Day *[VNA]* 55

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Dalai Lama Visit Stresses Human Rights in Tibet 56
    To Meet Prime Minister 8 May *[AFP]* 56
    Meets Foreign Minister Evans *[AFP]* 56
Immigration Bill Seeks To Control Boat People *[AFP]* 56
Keating on Khmer Rouge Attacks in Cambodia *[Melbourne International]* 57

Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Environment

BK0405124992 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 30 Apr 92 p 4

[Apparent full text of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Environment and Development]

[Text] We, the ministers from 55 developing countries met in Kuala Lumpur at the invitation of the Government of Malaysia, from April 26 to 29, 1992, at the second ministerial conference of developing countries on environment and development. The Kuala Lumpur conference, which had its initiation in New Delhi, India, in April 1990, is a follow-up to the first ministerial conference held in Beijing in June 1991. The Kuala Lumpur conference was also attended by observers from 11 developed countries, 10 international organisations, and nine nongovernmental organisations.

We exchanged views on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) process, which started in 1989 with the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 44/228, in the light of the results of the fourth substantive session of the preparatory committee of UNCED held in New York from March 2 to April 3, 1992. To that effect, we reaffirm the will and the determination of our governments to ensure that the Rio conference fully and clearly achieves in concrete terms, the provisions contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, notably UNGA Resolution 44/228. In this context, the discussions centred on efforts to address important outstanding issues, with a view to finding solutions for them at UNCED scheduled at Rio de Janiero, Brazil, from June 3 to 14, 1992.

While noting that progress was made in a number of areas at the final substantive session of the preparatory committee, we express our serious concerns at the lack of progresss on a few key issues, particularly financial resources and mechanisms.

UNCED is of historic importance and provides the occasion at the highest levels of government to address environment and development in an integrated, comprehensive and balanced manner for the benefit of both present and future generations. We call for a new global partnership based on respect for sovereignty and the principles of equity and equality among states for the achievement of sustainable development, taking into account the main responsibility of developed countries for the deterioration of the environment, and the need for sustained economic growth and development of developing countries.

Development is a fundamental right of all peoples and countries. An environmentally sound planet should correspond to a socially and economically just world. An environmentally sound development, and the creation of a supportive international economic environment to achieve this objective, including transfer of new and additional financial resources to developing countries, through distinct and specific mechanisms which are transparent, accountable and with equal representation in decision making, and modalities for transfer of environmentally sound technology, must be at the centre of the international agenda. In this regard, recognising the importance of international trade to all countries and the need for far-reaching reforms in international economic relations, we called on the developed countries to ensure without further delay a balanced, meaningful and satisfactory conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. We further emphasise that developed countries should not attempt to impose unilateral restrictions on international trade, in particular on natural resource-based and other related products on environmental grounds.

We further underline, in the context of attaining sustainable development, the need for the urgent conclusion and implementation of internationally supported measures to enhance and stabilise commodity prices, including commodity diversification, processing and development.

We reiterate that for the new global partnership to be meaningful, developing countries must have the resources to participate effectively. We also underline the urgent need to eradicate poverty and to guarantee sustained growth in both economic and environmental terms.

We stress that sustainable development makes it incumbent on developed countries to take major steps to transform their production, consumption and distribution patterns towards environmentally sound development. For the developing countries, sustainable development implies the right to development with due regard to the ecological processes. In order for the developing countries to achieve sustainable development, developed countries should adhere to a new concept of global partnership.

On the basis of the foregoing, and reaffirming the principles and objectives of the first ministerial conference of developing countries on environment and development held at Beijing, we agreed on the following positions on the core issues of special importance to developing countries to be taken up at the Rio conference:

Rio declaration on environment and development.

We note the progress made at the fourth substantive session of the preparatory committee in regard to the elaboration of the Rio declaration on environment and development as reflected in the chairman's draft text transmitted for further consideration and finalisation at the Rio conference. Recalling the reservations made, including those by developing countries, we agree that steps need to be taken to further develop the text in line with UNGA resolution 44/228.

Agenda 21.

We note the progress made at the last preparatory committee meeting in the identification of specific objectives, programmes and activities of Agenda 21 in a number of areas, including the recognition of the need for international efforts to address the serious problem of desertification and drought. We further reaffirm our willingness to continue participating in a constructive attitude in the issues yet to be resolved. We are also of the view that the programmes must support national priorities, must form an integrated package, and should not be used as a new form of conditionality in access to development support or any attempt to review national policies or strategies. We believe that agreement on the implementation of Agenda 21 programmes will depend on the availability of adequate, new and additional financial resources, and the transfer of environmentally sound technology to them on preferential and concessional terms.

Financial resources.

We reaffirm the position which was presented by the Group of 77 and China at the fourth substantive session of the preparatory committee for UNCED.

As regard the means of implementation, we are of the view that new and additional funding should be the basis of an evolving partnership leading progressively towards the goal of sustainable development in both developing and developed countries. This funding shold be provided in addition to, and separate from, the official development assistance (ODA) target commitments by the developed countries. A specific and separate fund for the implementation of Agenda 21 should be established. Predictability in the flow of funds should be ensured by assessed contributions from developed countries. Developing countries could contribute on a voluntary basis. The governance of the fund should include the following criteria:

(a) it should be transparent;

(b) it should be democratic in nature, with an equal voice for all parties in setting project eligibility criteria, project selection, and the authority to release funds, enabling an equitable balance between developed and developing countries;

(c) it should provide access and disbursement to all developing countries without any conditionality; and,

(d) it should provide for funding of activities according to the priorities and needs of the developing countries, taking into account Agenda 21.

All possibilities can be explored in regard to location or locations of the fund and its administrative and operational activities in the light of the above criteria. In addition, existing mechanisms governed by the criteria defined above could also be utilised as appropriate, in order to optimise provision of substantial grants or concessionary resources for the implementation of Agenda 21. In the follow-up after UNCED, there should be provisions for the effective monitoring of the financing of Agenda 21 and the mechanisms utilised for that purpose.

We welcome the initiative and note the Tokyo declaration on financing global environment and development.

Transfer of technology.

We recognise the progress made at the fourth substantive session of the preparatory committee meeting on this subject, and strongly stress the need for assured access to, and transfer of, technology on preferential and concessional terms to developing countries, taking into consideration that intellectual property rights should not hinder the transfer of technology to developing countries.

We further stress that the concept of transfer of technology should not be diluted by referring to it as technology co-operation.

We emphasise that modalities should be immediately set up for the transfer of technology, including state-of-the art technologies, to developing countries consistent with the relevant provisions of the UNGA Resolution 44/228.

Statement of principles of forests.

We emphasise that forest ecosystems and resources are part of the national patrimony to be managed, conserved and developed by each country in accordance with its national plans and priorities in the exercise of its sovereign rights.

We call on all countries to give full support to the finalisation of a non legally-binding authoritative statement of principles on the management, conservation and development of all types of forests and its adoption at the Rio conference.

Considering that the statement of principles would provide an adequate and sound basis for the greening of the world, including through reforestation, afforestation, regeneration and sustainable use of forest resources, the negotiations of a legally-binding instrument on forest would not be required.

We also call on the developed countries to substantially increase their forest cover and to avoid unilateral measures, in the name of environmental protection, that constitute arbitrary or discriminatory action such as bans and restrictions on international trade of forest and forest-related products from the developing countries.

Institutions.

We stress the necessity for an early decision on an intergovernmental institutional arrangement for follow-up of Agenda 21 and other decisions of UNCED, in accordance with agreed sections of document A/CONF.151/PC/WG.III/L.31 rev.1, and further agreement to be achieved at the Rio conference.

The Rio conference could also recommend to the General Assembly, provisions for financial and other means in the interim period between the Rio conference and the forty-seventh United Nations General Assembly.

In addition, we agree that national and regional institutions should be strengthened in order to promote sustainable development.

Proposed convention on climate change and biological diversity.

We note the current stage of negotiations pertaining to the framework convention on climate change and the convention on biological diversity, and call for their early conclusion.

Framework convention on climate change.

We express deep concern at the lack of progress in the negotiations for the framework convention on climate change.

In this regard, and in accordance with UNGA Resolution 46/169, urges the intergovernemntal negotiating committee to expedite and successfully complete the negotiations as soon as possible, and to adopt the framework convention on climate change, containing appropriate commitments and any related legal instrument as may be agreed upon, in time for it to be opened for signature during the UNCED.

We stress the importance of these negotiations which should seriously address the adverse impact of climate change on developing countries including adaptation and mitigation measures.

This is especially relevant to small island states; states with low-lying coastal areas, which are vulnerable to climate change and its consequential sea-level rise; disaster-prone developing countries; and countries liable to drought and desertification.

We urge the developed countries to undertake meaningful and specific commitments on stabilisation and reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

We further stress that developed countries should make commitments for the provision of financial resources and technology transfer to developing countries to enable them to adapt, mitigate, and combat climate change and its adverse effects.

We also stress that a fund should be established under this convention for its implementation.

We also express concern on the implications of the convention to developing countries whose economies are highly dependent on income generated from the production, processing, export, and/or the consumption of fossil fuels and associated energy-intensive products.

We reiterate that the implementation mechanisms of the convention should fully take into account the sovereign rights of each country to determine its national policies, plans, and programmes for sustainable development.

Convention on biological diversity.

We note the progress of the negotiations for a convention on biological diversity, and reaffirm the sovereign rights of states to use their biological and genetic resources.

We underline the need for the convention to establish mechanisms to give effect to the rights of countries which possess biological and genetic resources in insitu conditions.

In this context, we reiterate that the convention on bioligical diversity must include legally-binding commitments to ensure the link between the access to the genetic material of developing countries and the transfer of biotechnology and research capabilities from developed countries, as well as sharing of commercial profits and products derived from the genetic material.

We recognise that developing countries are already taking measures to conserve and use in a sustainable manner their biological resources, and stress that those measures should be supported by the developed countries through the provision of financial and other resources.

We are of the view that providing for a "global list of biogeographic areas of global importance" under the convention on biological diversity is not necessary.

We also stress that a fund should be established under this convention to make it possible for developing countries to fulfil their obligations under the convention.

South-South cooperation.

We recognise the need to enhance South-South cooperation on environment and development, by regular consultations at all levels and through exchange of environmentally sound scientific and technological knowledge on mutually acceptable terms, in the interest of accelerating development.

We agree that there should be regular consultations at ministerial, scientific, and other expert levels to encourage cooperation and monitor the decisions to be taken at the Rio conference.

Military Base Removal From Pacific Area Sought

OW0305161692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1440 GMT 03 May 92

[Text] Yokohama, May 3 (KYODO)—Encouraged by Manila's decision to close U.S. military facilities, there were calls for the removal of all foreign bases from the Asia-Pacific region on the opening day Sunday of a two-day disarmament meeting here of peace activists in the region.

Roland Simbulan, professor at Philippines University, told the meeting it was a triumph of antimilitary base activists that the Philippine Senate rejected a new lease for the U.S. Subic Bay Naval Station last September.

He also appealed for the removal of all foreign military bases from the Pacific region amid growing fears about Japan's bid to send its Self-Defense Forces personnel overseas to join United Nations peacekeeping missions.

Christine Wing, an expert in U.S. military strategies at Princeton University, said it is a good time to seek a total removal of military bases because Washington faces difficulties due to the end of the Cold War, a weakening domestic economy, disputes with its allies, and mounting anti-U.S. sentiments in the Pacific region.

PRC Academic Reiterates Stand on Spratly Islands

BK3004040092 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0335 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Excerpt] Kuala Lumpur, April 30 (OANA-BERNAMA)—China wants the issue of sovereignty over the disputed Spratly Islands to be shelved in the interest of common exploitation of resources in the area, a Chinese academician said Wednesday.

"As to the Nansha Islands (Spratly) dispute, our attitude remains the same as before: the shelving of the sovereignty dispute and working for common exploitation," said Professor Ji Guoxing of the Shanghai Institute of International Studies at a conference entitled "In Search of Pacific Asian Security" here.

The two-day conference, attended by military top brass, academicians and government officials, is part of the Defence Services Asia (DSA)'92 exhibition being held at the Putra World Trade Centre. The four-day show ends Thursday.

Prof. Ji said: "The enaction of the first law on China's territorial waters and adjacent areas by the Chinese National People's Congress on February 25, 1992 doesn't mean any change in China's policies.

"It is simply a reaffirmation of our past stand in the form of law in the process of strengthening China's legal system and has been drafted and discussed for years."

He said out of the 130 littoral states in the world, about 80 had established territorial systems in the form of domestic laws.

Some countries in Southeast Asia had stated their claims in the form of acts or laws, he added.

Prof. Ji was among the three speakers at the conference. The others were Dr. Gennadiy Chufrin from the Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow, and former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone who delivered the opening address. [passage omitted]

Asia-Pacific Scholars Open Environment Meeting

OW0105035792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0303 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Yokohama, May 1 KYODO—About 600 people, including some 20 scholars and environmentalists from the Asia-Pacific region, opened a three-day meeting Friday on environmental problems in Asia ahead of the Earth Summit in Brazil in June.

The conference in Yokohama centers on the effects of what organizers called Japan's waste of natural resources from abroad.

They said the parley of representatives from nongovernmental organizations will address the ongoing destruction of the environment in Thailand, the Solomon Islands, and the United States, as well as in Japan.

Specifically, they said, the "Asia NGO [nongovernmental organizations] Forum" will cover potential environmental hazards of a proposed dam across the Nagara River in Nagashima in Mie Prefecture, threats to ethnic groups, the global environment, recycling campaigns, and the development of resorts.

Meeting Ends, Issues Declaration

OW0305114692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1125 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Yokohama, May 3 KYODO—Hundreds of environmentalists and scholars from the Asia-Pacific region ended three days of talks here Sunday with a vow to establish a global citizens' network to protect the environment.

"We must appeal to immediately stop large-scale projects which have been implemented out of national interests and have neglected the voices of women and indigenous people," participants said in a "Kanagawa Declaration." Delegates to the Asian NGO (Nongovernment Organizations) Forum on the global environment from civil groups and environmental parties as well as NGOs were meeting ahead of the Earth Summit in Brazil in June.

The declaration also called for an immediate end to deforestation of tropical rain forests and operations of nuclear power plants, and the imposition of a special tax on the import of raw materials in order to encourage recycling. The document also demands a swift end to "environmentally destructive" projects such as the proposed dams on the Narmada River in India and the Nagara River in Japan.

Japan

U.S. Revocation of Antitrust Decision Sought

OW0605060092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0551 GMT 06 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Japan will ask the United States to revoke its decision to apply its antitrust laws overseas during a meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) later this month, government sources said Wednesday.

The sources said the request will be made during the OECD's two- day meeting in Paris on May 18-19.

Japan will also propose at the meeting the establishment of international rules for the enforcement of antitrust laws, the sources said.

The U.S. decision to apply its antitrust laws against foreign companies deemed to employ unfair trade practices against American firms has drawn strong protests from Japan and European Community (EC) countries on the grounds that it would infringe on their sovereignty.

On April 3, the United States said it will apply U.S. antitrust laws to foreign business practices harmful to American exports.

The new policy, the Justice Department said, will be targeted at "group boycotts, collusive pricing, and other exclusionary activities" which violate U.S. antitrust laws.

In Japan, this has been interpreted as applying to Japanese companies that engage in negotiations before bidding for tenders and in exclusionary transactions within their "Keiretsu" interlocked business affiliations.

Japan opposed the U.S. decision, arguing that it is unacceptable under international law.

The sources hinted at a possibility of heated debate on the issue, as Washington has urged Japan to tighten its fair trade regulations to keep pace with the United States and Europe.

They said Japan will also seek policy coordination on the application of antitrust laws among major trading partners at a meeting of the OECD's Committee on Competition Law and Policy to be held along with the organization's ministerial session.

Hata Suggests Providing ODA to CIS Republics

OW0605051392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT 06 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata suggested Wednesday that Japan and other industrial nations consider providing Official Development Assistance (ODA) to some former Soviet republics.

Hata told reporters that the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and its development assistance committee will discuss giving ODA to some Central Asian republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Ministers from the OECD are to hold an annual meeting in Paris May 18 and 19 to prepare the Munich summit in July of leaders from the Group of Seven (G-7) most industrialized nations and the European Community (EC) commission.

Aid to former Soviet republics tops the agenda of the two-day ministerial meeting of the Paris-based club of rich nations.

Hata returned Tuesday from an annual meeting in Hong Kong of the Asian Development Bank. Representatives from Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union attended the meeting as observers.

ODA is official aid given by industrial nations to developing nations to assist their development.

Hata also said he welcomed an increase in the foreign exchange value of the yen following last month's Washington meeting of G-7 top financial officials.

The G-7 officials from Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and the United States said in a communique that they preferred a stronger yen in the foreign exchange market.

Michio Watanabe Returns Home From CIS Trip

OW0605005792 Tokyo KYODO in English 0032 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe returned to Tokyo Wednesday from a trip to Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia where he talked with their leaders on economic aid and a territorial dispute.

Watanabe met with President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow to finalize the Russian leader's official visit to Japan starting September 13, and to discuss Japan's territorial dispute with Russia over four islands seized by Soviet forces at the end of World War II.

The foreign minister also met with his Russian counterpart Andrey Kozyrev.

Miyazawa, Watanabe Brief Leaders on Visits

OW0605084892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0822 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa vowed Wednesday to discuss with Italian and Canadian leaders Japan's territorial dispute with Russia before the Munich summit in July, officials said.

Miyazawa made the comment at a meeting of leaders of the government and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Last week, Miyazawa visited France and Germany to seek their support among seven major economic powers for Japan's long-standing demand for the return of four Russian-held islands off its northernmost main island of Hokkaido.

Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, who visited Britain last week, also asked for support on the issue from British Prime Minister John Major.

Despite international calls, Japan has refused to extend massive financial support for Russia and other former Soviet republics unless the territorial dispute is settled.

Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States is expected to top the agenda at the Munich summit which German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will host.

Officials quoted Miyazawa as saying the planned visit to Japan by Russian President Boris Yeltsin in mid-September will be crucial for resolving the territorial dispute.

While hoping other members of the world's seven major economic powers will understand Japan's stance over the isle dispute at the Munich summit, Miyazawa reportedly said there is not much room for optimism toward making a settlement.

The former Soviet Union seized Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai Islets at the end of World War II.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told the meeting Yeltsin may arrive in Japan the night of September 13 and leave for Russia the morning of September 16 due to a very tight schedule at home, the officials said.

The Russian president told Watanabe in Moscow on Monday he will visit Japan on September 13-15 for talks with Miyazawa.

Watanabe made a seven-day tour of Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Russia from last Wednesday until Tuesday.

Yeltsin reportedly agreed Japan and Russia will step up peace treaty talks at the foreign ministerial and working group levels to try to resolve the isle row before his visit to Japan.

During his trip, Watanabe also had a regular meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, but there was no major progress on the issue.

Shanghai Mayor Arrives in Osaka for Celebration

OW0605114992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1116 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Osaka, May 6 KYODO—Shanghai Mayor Huang Ju arrived in Osaka Wednesday to mark the 20th anniversary of the normalization of relations between Japan and China.

Huang's visit came at the invitation of the city of Osaka and Osaka Prefecture, which both hold sister city affiliations with China's largest city. The Shanghai mayor has visited this western Japan city twice before.

Japan and China normalized relations in September 1972, and concluded a peace treaty in August 1978.

During their visit, which ends next Thursday, Huang and nine other Shanghai officials will inspect the Kansai International Airport, now under construction on an artificial island off the Osaka Bay, Chinese officials said.

The new airport, scheduled to open in 1994, will be the first 24-hour airport in Japan.

The Shanghai delegation also will meet with business leaders in the Kansai area to seek investment in the Pudong special economic zone in eastern Shanghai.

Since forming a sister city affiliation with Shanghai in 1974, the city of Osaka has cooperated with the Chinese city in working out plans for developing Pudong by sending personnel to Shanghai.

Osaka Prefecture formed its affiliation with Shanghai in 1980.

Huang and others also will visit Tokyo, Yokohama and Nagoya to call for the expansion of Japan-China economic exchanges, as well as to publicize the special economic zone, the officials said.

The Pudong district, designated as a special economic zone in 1990, is China's international trade center, with construction of office buildings, subways and a commercial distribution center now underway at the 35,000 hectare site.

Miyazawa: Peacekeeping Bill Issue Top Priority

OW0605033092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0320 GMT 06 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday the passage of legislation to allow Japanese military personnel to take part in United Nations peacekeeping operations tops his priority list.

The opposition-dominated House of Councillors will resume deliberations on the government-sponsored peacekeeping operations bill Thursday after the Golden Week holidays. The bill has been passed by the House of Representatives.

Winding up three days of golfing and rest in Karuizawa, a resort town in Nagano Prefecture, Miyazawa said the next on his political agenda are "political reform and an economic stimulus package, and then Japanese-Russian negotiations (on a territorial issue)."

Miyazawa welcomed Russian President Boris Yeltsin's statement Monday on the planned pullout of most of the troops from the islands off Hokkaido that were seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II.

Keidanren Asks Tokyo To Boost Science Spending

OW0605080892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0710 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—A powerful business organization urged the government Wednesday to double outlays for scientific research and development at higher educational institutions to 1 percent of Japan's gross national product in five years.

The Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) said in a statement the environment surrounding engineering education at universities and colleges, the foundation of the country's scientific research, has deteriorated.

The group said government, industry, and school authorities must act to strengthen upper-level science education.

It said educational institutions perennially suffer from a shortage of funds for research work because of a government ceiling on expenditures for science and technology.

Besides urging increased spending on research, Keidanren pressed the government to carry out structural reforms of universities and colleges to put the principle of competition into practice.

Industry will support such reforms through personnel interchanges and management of schools, the statement said.

Health, Welfare Ministry on Household Statistics

OW0205113092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1011 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—The number of Japanese households made up of elderly people was estimated to total 4,711,000 in 1991, an increase of 516,000 or 12.3 percent over the previous year, the Health and Welfare Ministry announced Saturday. The 1991 figure was 2.9 times higher than it was in 1975, the ministry said.

The ministry said the report was based on a survey conducted last June on 52,000 households and about 160,000 people picked at random using the 1985 national census. The ministry said the number of households in the country totaled 40,506,000 when the survey was conducted, an increase of 233,000 or 0.6 percent over the preceding year. The number of household members averaged 3.04 people, down from 3.05 people in the preceding year, the ministry said.

Elderly households made up of men over the age of 65 and women over 60 accounted for 4,711,000, the ministry said. The total number of men and women over 65 stood at 15,599,000, of which 8,984,000 or 57.6 percent lived with their children and their spouses, down from 69 percent in 1980, the ministry said. Households consisting of only elderly people accounted for 27.2 percent of the total, up from 19.6 percent in 1980, it said.

The number of aged people living alone increased more than 200,000 over the previous year to 1,816,000, accounting for 11.6 percent of the total population of those over 65, the ministry said. Some 1,485,000 or 81.8 percent of the elderly living alone were women, the ministry report said.

Households with children under 18 totaled 15,514,000 or 38.3 percent of the total, down from 38.7 percent in the preceding year, the ministry said.

In a related development, the ministry said about 56 percent of all households carried the burden of housing loans or rents for homes and land. The report was based on a survey of 13,000 households across the nation in July last year, with responses received from 9,680 households, the ministry said.

The ministry said 24.3 percent said they were repaying housing loans or both housing loans and rent for houses or land, while 31.6 percent said they are paying rent for houses and land.

The average annual amount of repayments by households in 12 major cities stood at 1,222,000 yen against income of 8,860,000 yen, while the figure in cities with the population of more than 150,000 amounted to 990,000 yen against income of 8,143,000, the ministry said. In smaller cities, the repayment amount stood at 923,000 against income of 7,792,000, while the amount for residents in rural areas amounted to 794,000 yen out of income of 6,890,000 yen, the ministry said. It said 46.9 percent of households with outstanding debts are being squeezed by the burden of repayments.

Continuing 'Dwindling Birthrates' at Postwar Low

OW0405083492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 4 KYODO—The number of Japanese children under age 15 has kept up its record-shattering annual decline, hitting another postwar low of 21.64 million as of April 1, 1992, the Management and Coordination Agency said Monday. The figure represented a drop of 570,000 from the preceding 12-month period that ended on April 1, 1991, the agency said in statistics released one day before the national "Children's Day" holiday on Tuesday.

Because of dwindling birthrates, the percentage of children under age 15 out of the total population skidded to 17.4 percent, for the 14th consecutive year-on-year decline, the agency said. The percentage marked a drop of 0.5 percentage points from the corresponding 12-month period a year earlier, the agency said.

The percentage of children under 15 is less than half the 36 percent mark consistently registered before World War II. The population of children in a postwar Japan has generally followed a downward path in the past five decades except for the so-called "second baby boom" period of 1971-1974, it said.

The Health and Welfare Ministry earlier predicted that the population of children in Japan would continue its downward spiral until the year 2000 and that the percentage would sag to 15.2 percent of the total population about then.

By prefecture, Okinawa had the highest percentage of children in the prefectural population at 24.0 percent, followed by Miyazaki with 19.9 percent and then by Shiga and Saga, which each had a 19.8 percent rate.

The child population has been depleted most severely in Tokyo, where children make up 14.4 percent of the population, followed by Kanagawa with 16.7 percent and then Osaka, Kyoto and Toyama, where children made up 16.8 percent of the population.

Inspection System for Environmental Issues Urged

OW0305075592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0732 GMT 3 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 3 KYODO—A group of Japanese, U.S., and European business leaders has called for an international inspection system to assess how effectively businesses are dealing with environmental problems. The proposal is contained in a report titled "Changing Course," prepared by the Geneva-based Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD) by Sunday. [as received]

The report said it is essential for businesses to fundamentally alter ways of management in order to prevent environmental disruption. Specifically, it says developing innovative production processes that cause no industrial waste is an urgent task for corporations. It also suggests companies' environmental protection costs be passed on to consumers through prices and service fees.

On the proposed inspection system, the report proposes the International Standardization Organization, also based in Geneva, should be fully utilized to assess companies' efforts to resolve environmental questions. It also calls on the developing world to be more self-reliant on population and international debt issues, while stressing the need to promote technology transfers from industrialized nations.

The BCSD's report will be formally adopted at a general meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, on Wednesday and Thursday, and will be discussed at the Earth Summit in Brazil in June. The BCSD was formed in early 1991 by 48 business leaders from 20 countries to reflect the views of the world's business communities at the Earth Summit.

Among Japanese members of the council are Toshiaki Yamaguchi, president of Tosoh Corp., Kazuo Inamori, chairman of Kyocera Corp., Yutaka Kume, president of Nissan Motor Co., and Shinroku Morohashi, president of Mitsubishi Corp.

Compromise Proposal on Environment Supported

OW0605051592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0440 GMT 06 May 92

[Text] Tokyo, May 6 KYODO—Japan will support a compromise proposal for a framework convention on climate change to be submitted to the June 3-14 Earth Summit in Brazil, government sources said.

The compromise proposal calls for producing guidelines and taking measures to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide that cause global warming at the 1990 level by 2000.

Environment Agency Director General Shozaburo Nakamura and Masahisa Aoki, leader of an environment panel at the governing Liberal Democratic Party, took the decision in a meeting Tuesday.

Nakamura and Aoki agreed to ensdorse the proposal in order to encourage the United States to join the proposed convention.

The U.S. is said to be responsible for about a quarter of the worldwide emissions of carbon dioxide.

The Japanese decision followed deliberations in New York where Japan and the European Community tried unsuccessfully to have the U.S. agree to a formula that would oblige all countries to limit emissions of carbon dioxide emissions at 1990 levels by 2000.

At an informal meeting in Paris in mid-April, the U.S. indicated for the first time that it would agree to including a reference in the convention on setting out a policy on limiting carbon dioxide.

North Korea

Ministry Spokesman Discusses Report to IAEA

SK0605023092 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0107 GMT 6 May 92

[DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman answers a Korean Central News Agency reporter's questions on 5 May about the initial report submitted by the DPRK to the International Atomic Energy Agency—read by announcer]

[Text] As has already been reported, the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK deliberated and approved on 9 April the proposal of the government of the Republic on ratifying the agreement between the DPRK Government and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] on the effectuation of the guarantee pursuant to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. Accordingly, we officially notified the IAEA on 10 April that the nuclear safeguards accord had been approved, and our nuclear safeguards accord was effectuated effective that date.

According to the nuclear safeguards accord, we are to submit an initial report on the total stock of nuclear materials and an inventory of nuclear facilities by the end of May. However, the government of our Republic, proceeding from the desire to rapidly push ahead with nuclear inspection, submitted to the IAEA an initial report on the total stock of nuclear materials and an inventory of nuclear facilities on 4 May.

This fact alone shows how sincerely the government of our Republic is making efforts to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The IAEA has notified us that it will send specialists to our country in May to discuss the detailed rules of [word indistinct].

We will fully discuss with the specialists dispatched from the IAEA matters related to nuclear inspections and make every possible effort to smoothly conduct the nuclear inspections.

We recognize that the United States, too, should show sincerity in turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone in conformity with the working-level procedures for nuclear inspection that the government of our Republic is gradually taking.

The U.S. Administration should ensure that some people who are bent on raising artificial obstacles to the settlement of nuclear inspection, which is making satisfactory progress, stop their act at an early date and take a decisive step to accept our principled, fair call for full-scale inspection of nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea as promised.

At the same time, it should make South Korean authorities sincerely approach North-South talks for realizing the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

At this point when nuclear inspection and the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula are being realized, the nuclear threat to Northeast Asia comes clearly from Japan.

Japan is now accelerating its movement toward becoming a major military power by producing, importing, and storing a large quantity of plutonium, an amount more than necessary to instantly transform itself into a nuclear power once it makes up its mind to do so.

Such a movement by Japan is naturally arousing apprehension and uneasiness among Asians and the world and the world's peace-loving people now face an urgent task to frustrate and obstruct with maximum vigilance Japan's arming itself with nuclear weapons.

Instead of clinging to the idea of applying a brake to the denuclearization process on the Korean peninsula, the Japanese Government should give up its wild ambitions to arm itself with nuclear weapons which pose threats to global peace, thereby dissipating international concern on this.

Our Republic's government will, as in the past, make every effort possible to sincerely implement the nuclear safeguards accord in accordance with its anti-nuclear peace policy.

Inventory Said To Show 13 Unknown Nuclear Sites

AU0505170892 Paris AFP in English 1555 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Vienna, May 5 (AFP) — North Korea revealed the existence of 13 hitherto unknown nuclear facilities in an inventory of its nuclear installations given to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the IAEA said Tuesday [5 May].

The disclosure came on the eve of North-South reconciliation talks in Seoul, with discussions on an inter-Korean agreement to ban nuclear weapons bogged down in working-level talks over mutual inspections of suspected nuclear sites.

The North is suspected of being close to developing a crude nuclear device, and Seoul has been seeking to improve ties with its longtime rival in concert with progress on the nuclear issue.

An IAEA statement here said a radiochemical laboratory at the Institute of Radiochemistry under construction at Yongbyon posed "the biggest question mark." The laboratory will conduct research into the separation of uranium and plutonium and the handling of nuclear waste as well as training of technicians, the IAEA said.

According to Western specialists cited by IAEA officials, the separation of plutonium and uranium could be used for military purposes although Pyongyang has always denied trying to build nuclear weapons.

Other installations included a plant for storing and making nuclear fuel rods at Yongbyon, a five megawatt experimental reactor at the Yongbyon Institute of Nuclear Physics, and an installation at the Kim Il-song University at Pyongyang. In addition, a nuclear power plant of 50 megawatts under construction in Yongbyon and another of 200 megawatts under construction in North Pyongang Province were reported, the IAEA said, and three reactors of 635 megawatts each for a nuclear power plant were planned. Two uranium mines and two plants for producing uranium concentrate were also listed, the IAEA said.

The first IAEA inspection tour of North Korean nuclear facilities is expected to take place at the beginning of June so the team will have time to draw up its report for the next IAEA governors' meeting on June 15.

North Korea handed over its list of nuclear installations in service and under construction to the IAEA on Monday in accordance with the "safeguards agreement" of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which Pyongyang signed in January and ratified on April 9.

IAEA director general Hans Blix of Sweden will visit North Korea May 11-16, the North Korean ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Yi Chol, said Tuesday.

Plutonium Reportedly Produced at Yongbyon

OW0605111192 Tokyo KYODO in English 1059 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Beijing, May 6 KYODO—North Korea has confirmed that it has extracted a small amount of plutonium at its Yongbyon nuclear facility, a U.S. group which visited North Korea said here Wednesday.

Choe Chong-sun, a spokesman for the Ministry for the Atomic Energy Industry, told the group from Carnegie Endowment for International Peace that North Korea has extracted "a little bit of plutonium for experimental purposes" in Yongbyon, some 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang.

According to the group's report obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, Choe denied the existence of a reprocessing facility but said reprocessing experiments were conducted in a radio-chemistry laboratory at Yongbyon and resulted in the production of plutonium.

Asked about the amount produced, Choe replied, "next to nothing," the report said.

He was also quoted as saying the purpose of the experiment was to acquire data about the "nuclear fuel cycle, which is very important to build a self-sufficient nuclear program."

He said the plutonium was extracted from a damaged fuel rod that was taken from the domestically-built 5-megawatt reactor at Yongbyon.

It is the first time Pyongyang has admitted producing plutonium, which can be used to manufacture nuclear weapons.

The four-member group visited North Korea from April 28 to May 2 at the invitation of North Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam.

The group was unable to visit Yongbyon because North Korean officials denied the request, saying the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) should be the first outside organization to visit the site.

North Korean leaders also assured the group that the IAEA inspectors will be given access to any facilities or structures they wish to inspect, the report said.

"The IAEA will be able to see anything it likes. If it wishes, we can show other facilities, even those not on the initial inventory (submitted to the agency)," Kim was quoted as saying.

He also said North Korea will show the building identified by U.S. satellite intelligence as a reprocessing plant.

Kim Yong-sun, Korean Workers' Party secretary for international affairs, told the group that IAEA Director Hans Blix is expected to visit North Korea on Sunday.

North Korea ratified the IAEA inspections accord in April and indicated then it would have the report ready near the end of May, enabling international inspection of its facilities sometime in June.

On Tuesday in Vienna, the IAEA published North Korea's report on its nuclear facilities and materials which was submitted earlier on Monday.

North Korea's report contained a list of 16 facilities, including atomic power plants and research facilities for studying nuclear fuel cycles, the IAEA said.

The list also included two uranium mines, plants to produce and store nuclear fuel rods, and other research facilities, most of which are located in the Yongbyon area.

The IAEA plans to carry out its first inspection in mid-June.

Meanwhile, Kim Yong-nam denied allegations that North Korea exports surface-to-surface missiles to the Middle East and said Pyongyang is willing to observe the guidelines of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), the group said.

"Other countries have associated themselves with it—why not us?" Kim was quoted as saying. "It would be no problem for our country to associate itself with such a regime because we oppose the proliferation of missiles," he said.

Members of Delegation to Premiers Talks Listed

SK0505113492 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1107 GMT 5 May 92

[Excerpt] Seoul May 5 (KCNA correspondent) - The North side's delegation to the 7th inter-Korean high-level talks and its entourage arrived in Seoul today.

The delegation led by Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, consists of Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA] Kim Kwang-chin; spokesman An Pyong-su, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF); Paek Nam-chun, director of the Secretariat of the CPRF; Kim Chong- u, vice-minster of externl economic affairs; Choe U-chin, roving amassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Major General of the KPA Kim Yong-chol.

The delegation was met at the guest house by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik the senior delegate, and officials concerned with the talks of the Souths ide.

Fellow countrymen in the South warmly welcomed the delegation with kindred feelings along the route to Seoul from outside the Joint Security Area of the Military Demarcation Line. [passage omitted]

Premier Addresses South-Hosted Dinner in Seoul

SK0505161892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1600 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Seoul May 5 (KCNA correspondent)—The South side's prime minister arranged a dinner at the Lotte

Hotel this evening in honor of the North side's delegation which arrived in Seoul to participate in the seventh inter-Korean high-level talks.

Addressing the dinner, Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of the North side's delegation, said that both North and South arranged the high-level talks and adopted and effectuated the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization by their joint efforts, thus setting up an excellent milestone for national reunification, a splendid thing. It is a historical victory of the national idea and a brilliant victory of the line of independence, he stressed.

The main spirit of the historical North-South agreement effectuated by the sides is an independent spirit to solve all the questions related to the peace and reunification of the country by the nation's own effort without any interference of foreign forces, he noted, and continued:

Only when the North and the South turn out together on the road of independence can the implementation of the North-South agreement be firmly guaranteed, our nation's interests be steadfastly defended and reunification be accelerated.

Noting that the question of the "comfort girls for the army" during the Japanese imperialist colonial rule which is now drawing deep concern at home and abroad is the height of the tragic disasters and shame imposed upon our nation, he recalled that the proposal to take a joint step of the North and the South regarding this question failed to arouse a due response from the South side.

He expressed the expectation that the day would surely come when the North and the South would take a joint step for the dignity and sovereignty of the nation.

Our North side's delegation will produce reasonable proposals for a correct and prompt implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization at the seventh talks and approach the discussion with sincerity and magnanimity, firmly maintaining the independent stand, and actively strive to see that the high-level talks make a due contribution to opening the door of peace and peaceful reunification in conformity with the aspiration and desire of the nation, declared Yon Hyong- muk.

South side's Prime Minister Chong Won-sik said in his speech that the effectuation of the North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization at the sixth high-level talks in February means ushering in the era of reconciliation and cooperation. He hoped the seventh high-level talks would be recorded as another round of historical talks.

First Day of 7th N-S High-Level Talks Reported

SK0605094892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0400 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpt] Amid great expectations and the interest of all the people, the first-day session of the seventh North-South high-level talks was held on the morning of 6 May at a conference room in the Shilla Hotel in Seoul. Many North, South, and foreign reporters came to cover the talks.

Those who came to the conference room at 1000 [0100 GMT] were Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK Administration Council and head of our side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks; Kim Kwang-chin, vice marshal of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; spokesman An Pyong-su, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF]; Paek Nam-chun, director of the CPRF Secretariat; Kim Chong-u, vice minister of external economic affairs; Choe U-chin, roving ambassador of the Foreign Ministry; and KPA Major General Kim Yong-chol. The suite members also came to the conference room.

The South side's delegates, including Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, the South side's chief delegate, and its suite members came to the conference room.

Our side's delegates exchanged greetings with the South side's delegates. The talks were held in public, with the heads of the two sides' delegations making keynote speeches.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of our side's delegation, made a keynote speech. [passage omitted]

Chinese Party Workers' Delegation Visits

SK0505120392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1120 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], today met and had a friendly talk with the party workers' delegation of China headed by Wang Deying, deputy secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection of the Communist Party of China.

The head of the delegation said that during their stay they saw with their own eyes the great achievements made by the Korean people in socialist construction under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and that the heroic Korean People's Army has strengthened and developed into a matchless army which defends the socialist motherland.

Saying that wherever he went he warmly felt the feelings of the Korean people's friendship with the Chinese people, he pointed out that China-Korea friendship will be everlasting.

Present there were vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee Kim Yang-kon and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

During its stay the delegation visited Mangyongdae, the cradle of revolution, and was guided to the Tower of the Chuche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the International Friendship Exhibition, the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong, the Friendship Tower, the Grand

People's Study House, the Mangyongdae School Children's Palace, the West Sea barrage, Panmunjom and other places in Pyongyang and local areas.

WPK Delegation Departs for PRC

SK0505160392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—A friendship visiting goup of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Choe Kwang-yol, vice- director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, left here today for a visit to China.

It was seen off at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and a councillor of the Chinese Embassy here.

Japanese Remarks on Nuclear Inspection Criticized

SK0505115592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1059 GMT 5 May 92

["Insidious Attempt To Lay Deliberate Difficulties in the Way of DPRK-Japan Talks"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Japanese Prime Minister Miyazawa, speaking at an official function on April 29, said Japan "cannot rest assured" even if the DPRK underwent an inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Japanese ASAHI SHIMBUN reported.

NHK reported on May 2 that the Japanese side "intend to urge" the DPRK to accept a "bilateral inspection" with South Korea beside nuclear inspection by the IAEA at the forthcoming 7th DPRK-Japan talks for the normalization of diplomatic relations.

It is very ill-boding that such ambiguous remarks are coming from the Japanese side in succession with the 7th DPRK-Japan talks around the corner.

It is as clear as noonday that the inspection by the IAEA is a matter which should be solved between us and the IAEA and that the simultaneous inspection of the North and the South is a matter to be solved between us and South Korea.

It is widely known a fact that the two questions have been discussed sincerely between the parties concerned and are being solved reasonably or a solution is being sought for.

This notwithstanding, the Japanese authorities are persistently making much ado about such matters which have nothing to do with the DPRK-Japan talks for the normalization of diplomatic relations. Why?

They seek in this to divert elsewhere the attention of the world people who are now warning against Japan's moves toward nuclear arming.

Even SEOUL SINMUN April 25 expressed apprehensions over Japan's plan to purchase much more plutonium than is necessary from abroad. The newspaper wrote: "If Japan promote her nuclear arming with a view to turning herself into a military power, she will come to the surface as a new nuclear suzerain state in place of the United States in the Asian region at least by the year 2000."

In an effort to mislead such public opinion, Japan is stubbornly raising a hue and cry over the "nuclear inspection" problem, continuously putting a spoke in the wheel of the talks.

It is well worth noting that the prime minister himself let loose such words as "cannot rest assured" at the moment when all the problems are being solved between us and the IAEA. This is, indeed, an act of one bereft of reason.

The Japanese authorities must be prudent in their behavior and stop creating difficulties intentionally in the way of the talks any longer. We will follow their behavior hereafter.

Japanese Party Group To Inspect Tumen River Arrives

SK0505162592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1609 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—A survey group of the Japan Social-Democratic Party for the development of the river Tumen area led by Yuzuru Shimazaki, secretary general of the Committee for Measures on the Korean Affairs of the Japan Social-Democratic Party and member of the House of Representatives, arrived here today.

The group was met at the airport by Kim Yang-kon, chairman of the Korea-Japan Friendship Association.

South Demonstrations Over U.S. Riots Reported

SK0505151792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1457 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Some 700 students belonging to the Kwangju-South Cholla Provincial District Federation of General Student Councils on May 4 staged a demonstration criticizing the U.S. racial discrimination policy and demanding compensation measures for the victims as regards the riots of black people in Los Angeles, the United States.

While staging the demonstration, they distributed copies of a literature denouncing the "government" authorities who were indifferent to measures for the Korean victims though the U.S. Government misrepresented the point at issue as a problem between Koreans and black people to lessen the loss of the whites.

On the same day, some 100 students under the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils staged a demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy demanding that the U.S. Government compensate the losses of Koreans, bearing responsibility for having neglected protection of Koreans in the riot of black people in Los Angeles.

In a letter of protest to the U.S. Ambassador Gregg in Seoul, the students said that the U.S. Government was shifting the problem caused by racial conflict at home on to Koreans and demanded permanent safety measures for the Koreans in the United States.

South Urged To Implement Documents Faithfully

SK0605105392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0958 GMT 6 May 92

["Provisions of Inter-Korean Agreement Should Be Respected and Implemented"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 6 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities must clearly know that if they do not implement the historic documents of the inter-Korean agreement that they solemnly pledged themselves to fulfil before the whole nation and try to make them a scrap of paper, they will be certainly judged by history, nation and posterity for betraying the great will of the nation, NODONG SINMUN today says in a signed article.

Our party and the government of the Republic, regarding the documents of the inter-Korean agreement as a valuable fruition of the efforts for the peace and reunification of the country, are doing all they can for their implementation, the article says, and goes on:

The North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization are a solemn pledge in which the North and the South reconfirmed the three principles of national reunification clarified in the July 4 joint statement and declared that the question of peace and reunification of the country should be solved independently by the internal forces of the nation.

If the South Korean authorities have real intention to implement the inter-Korean agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation, they should have an independent stand of the nation trusting the fellow countrymen and relying on the independent forces of the nation, free from the old mode of existence to live under the "nuclear protection" of the outside forces, leaving their destiny to the mercy of foreign forces.

The agreement and the joint declaration are an anti-nuke peace declaration in which commitments to the North-South nonaggression and denuclearization of the Korean peninsula were made and a valuable blueprint to open a new chapter of reconciliation and peace.

The South Korean authorities, in response to our positive peace efforts, should take substantial steps for ensuring peace and denuclearisation of the country such as stopping arms expansion, arms buildup, provocative war exercises and realizing disarmament and make a determined decision to get the U.S. armed forces withdrawn from South Korea, dismantle its military bases and completely settle the nuclear problem with the DPRK.

The agreement and the joint declaration are a declaration of great national unity calling for an end to the history of distrust and confrontation and national reconciliation and unity.

Since the South Korean authorities agreed to get reconciled and united with the North, they should abolish the "National Security Law" and pull down all walls of ideology and system which are contrary to reconciliation and unity, release without delay Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, coed Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North and patriotic pro-reunification figures illegally arrested and make a policy switchover toward wide-range great national unity and patriotism which unite the nation.

The North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearisation are the dignified documents that the responsible authorities of the North and the South agreed, adopted and effectuated through the procedures of ratification and a joint declaration of the nation whose implementation was solemnly promised before the whole nation and the world.

The South Korean rulers can never shirk the responsibility and commitment to unconditionally implement the historic documents of the inter-Korean agreement to the letter.

Article Views Aspects of Criminal Code

SK0505161392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1523 GMT 5 May 92

["On Some Problems in Correctly Understanding Present Criminal Code of the DPRK"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 5 (KCNA)—Prof. and Dr. Kim Kun-sik, head of the Criminal Law Chair of Kim Il-song University, published an article headlined "On Some Problems in Correctly Understanding Present Criminal Code of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea," which reads in part:

The criminal code of the Republic instituted in 1950 was totally revised in 1974 and 1987.

The present criminal code was adopted on February 5, 1987, in the form of Decision No. 2 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly through an overall revision of the criminal code of 1974. It is a peculiar socialist penal law of our style meeting the intrinsic demand of the socialist political system centered on the popular masses and the popular, democratic and humanitarian demand. It is also a superior criminal code which reflects the daily mounting sentiments for reunification on the basis of the three principles of national reunification agreed upon between the North and the South.

The present criminal code of the Republic consists of 8 chapters, 13 paragraphs and 116 subparagraphs and has additional rules on military crimes.

The chapters are: Chapter 1 The Fundamentals of the Criminal Law, Chapter 2 General Regulations on Crimes and Penalties, Chapter 3 Anti-State Crimes, Chapter 4 Crimes Against Socialist Economy, Chapter 5 Crimes Against Socialist Culture, Chapter 6 Crimes

Against General Administrative Order of the State, Chapter 7 Crimes Against Order of Socialist Community Life, and Chapter 8 Crimes Against Lives and Properties of Citizens.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a socialist state based on a socialist political system centered on the popular masses.

The criminal law of the Republic defines as anti-state crimes the hostile acts to overthrow the Republic based on the socialist political system centered on the popular masses illegally by criminal means and hostile acts to disturb and weaken it for this purpose.

Chapter 3 of the criminal code stipulates such concrete forms of anti-state crimes as a plot to overthrow the state power, terrorism, anti-state propaganda and sedition, treason against the country, spying, instigating armed intervention and severance of external relations, and anti-state subversive acts and sabotage as well as hostile acts of foreigners staying in the Republic, treason against the nation and concealment of anti-state crimes (see subparagraphs of the criminal code 44-55).

These crimes defined in the criminal code of the Republic are anti-state crimes of political and hostile nature intended to directly overthrow the Republic based on a socialist political system centered on the popular masses or overthrow the Republic by endangering its internal and external security.

The penalties on anti-state crimes stipulated in the present criminal code of the Republic are as follows:

The main penalties, that is, the basic penalties, are death sentence and reformation through labor, and secondary penalties, that is, the subsidiary penalties, are forfeiture of the right to elect and confiscation of property.

The death sentence is limited to the particularly grave cases in the plot to overthrow the state power, terrorism, treason against the country and treason against the nation, which are anti-state crimes of especially serious and dangerous nature.

The criminal code of the Republic bans a death sentence and its execution against a minor who is under 17 when he commits a crime and pregnant women from the humanitarian point of view.

Though the criminal code stipulates death sentences against some anti-state crimes, it seeks to avoid their execution in practice.

The reformation through labor is like penal servitude in its content and method of execution. Its terms range from sixth months to 15 years. No reformation through labor for life is stipulated.

The criminal code of the Republic stipulates no penalty of confinement. It excludes reformation through labor for life (life imprisonment) and confinement for life or for a definite term, judging that such penalties might cripple the criminals physically and mentally and impose heavy sufferings upon them.

In case a person's crimes are put together, the criminal code stipulates that the penalty cannot exceed the maximum 15 years when the term of the penalty is set and when the remainder of the penalty and the new penalty are put together.

Under the criminal code, a prisoner is released unconditionally when he serves out his term and he is regarded as a man who is completely freed from the charge.

The criminal code does not stipulate "the system of expiating the previous convictions" or the system of restricting the personal freedom of a criminal by keeping him in prison or a reformatory or a concentration camp with various conditions attached even after he served out his term, considering that they are systems wholly contradictory to humanitarianism, defense of human rights and democracy.

The criminal code of the Republic meets democratic demands in defining the retroactive effect.

When provisions of the criminal code are amended and supplemented or totally revised before the court ruling on the accused, it does not allow retroaction in case an act is regarded as a crime in the new code, though it was not in the old code, or a penalty is set heavier in the new code than in the old code, and allows retroaction in case an act is not regarded as a guilt in the new code, though it was regarded so in the old code and the penalty is reduced in the new code compared with that in the old code. (see subparagraph 8 of the criminal code of the Republic).

Subparagraph 46 of the criminal code of the Republic defines the charge of anti-state propaganda and sedition as "propaganda and sedition to overthrow, disturb and weaken the Republic or to commit other anti-state crimes."

The criminal code of the Republic charges a man with anti-state propaganda and sedition only when he conducted propaganda and sedition instigating people to anti-state hostile act for overthrowing, disturbing and weakening the state system.

The criminal code of the Republic does not criminalize such acts as studying any ideology, theory, system, policy and measure, expressing one's own approval or objection to them, raising a demand on them or sympathizing with them. It only criminalizes propaganda and sedition encouraging others to do such anti-state acts as overthrowing, disturbing and weakening the Republic based on a socialist political system centred on the popular masses, on condition that subjective and objective grounds are provided.

I think that this is entirely right both in view of ensuring the freedom and rights of the press and of the universally recognized theory of the democratic criminal code and it does not offer any legal obstacle to dialogue and exchange between the North and the South for national reunification.

Subpargraph 47 of the criminal code of the Republic defines the treason against the country in the following words: "In case a citizen of the Republic runs away to a foreign country or to the enemy side or engages himself in spying and helps the enemy, betraying the country and the people."

The "enemy side" and "enemy" in the subparagraph defining the treason against the country mean the opposite side in a war or the possible guerrilla side.

If the South Korean side were at war with us, it would be the "enemy side" or "enemy". In peacetime, however, it cannot be considered the "enemy side" or "enemy".

If a person who had lived in the Republic with the citizenship absconded to a foreign country or South Korea in peacetime after his criminal acts such as gathering secret information, committing terrorism and forming a secret organization were disclosed, it is an escape motivated by the purpose of committing hostile acts in the event of contingency, different from illegal border crossing or illegal crossing over to South Korea with a simple purpose or motive.

Therefore, the criminal code of the Republic defines the escape to South Korea for an anti-state purpose after committing hostile acts in peacetime as a treason against the country, considering that though it is not an act of fleeing to a foreign country or the enemy side, it is the same with it in the purpose and nature of the act.

It must be noted here that only a person who flees to a foreign country or the enemy side or South Korea for the purpose of overthrowing, disturbing and weakening the Republic is considered a treason against the country.

Among the people of the Republic were those who returned home after participating in sports meet or conferences sponsored by institutions, political parties and social organizations of South Korea without legal approval and those who illegally went over to South Korea, deceived by Americans' propaganda that they would drop atomic bombs, and those who were apprehended while attempting to illegally go over to South Korea with temporary "discontent".

The criminal code of the Republic did not ask them their criminal responsibility for treason against the country because they did not seek an anti-state purpose nor prosecute them at all in view of the purpose and nature of their acts.

It is not difficult to find in other countries examples of asking such people their criminal responsibility, charging them with illegal crossing the border or illegal crossing the demarcation line for their failure to get legal permission, though they did not seek an anti-state purpose. But it is only in South Korea that such persons were prosecuted for anti-state offense, a political offense.

Typical example of this is that Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and coed Yim Su-kyong and their companions were penalized on the charge of the violation of the "National Security Law" [NSL].

I consider that to have punished them by invoking the "NSL" is an outrageous act in view of law.

As for the purpose of their visit to the North, it was entirely for national reunification, not for endangering or disturbing the South Korean system or communizing South Korea. They visited the North to acquire knowledge of the view of the DPRK on national reunification and discuss the reunification question. But they were made objects of punishment by criminal law. This act cannot be construed otherwise than an outrageous act contrary to the common sense of law.

When the fact that they had applied to the authorities for permission of visit to the North is taken into consideration, their visit is not liable for punishment by criminal law.

To have penalized them on the charge of the violation of the "NSL" is a vicious anti-national, inhuman and immoral act also in light of the national and ethical point of view.

Subparagraph 52 of the criminal code of the Republic defines as treason against the nation such treacherous acts as suppressing or persecuting the national liberation movement of our people and their revolutionary struggle for the reunification and independence of the country in league with the imperialists under their domination or betraying the interests of the Korean nation to the imperialists as a member of the Korean nation.

Taking into account the fact that many of those who committed crimes against the country and the nation repented of their crimes and are actively taking part in the patriotic struggle for reunification and independence of the country, the criminal code of the Republic in subparagraph 5 stipulates that "if those who betrayed the country and the nation work hard for the reunification and independence of the country, the state does not accuse them of their past doings nor ask them their criminal respensibility."

This stipulation signifies a great legal contribution to achieving national reconciliation and great unity and realising the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The criminal code of the Republic may be unreasonably described as an "obstacles" by those who seek the division of our country and dream of "unification by prevailing over communism" and "unification through absorption" but, I affirm, it offers no legal obstacle to the achievement of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country with different systems existing in the North and the South recognized.

Party Secretary Speaks at May Day Ceremony

SK0605061092 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1000 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Congratulatory report by Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and secretary of the party Central Committee, at a report meeting held to celebrate May Day at the People's Palace of Culture on 30 April—recorded]

[Text] Comrades: Today our working class and people are greatly celebrating May Day, a holiday of the working class the world over, upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and cherishing in their hearts the great national pride and the revolutionary self-confidence of victoriously advancing the cause of socialism with the might of single-minded unity under our party's wise leadership.

On this holiday, in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], I enthusiastically congratulate our country's entire working class and working people who are devotedly struggling for the enrichment and development of the fatherland and for the victory of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

I also extend my warm greetings to the South Korean people from all walks of life, including workers, who are valiantly fighting for anti-U.S. independence, antifascist democratization, and national reunification in defiance of the brutal fascist oppression and persecution by the U.S. imperialists and their followers; to 700,000 Korean residents in Japan; and to all the overseas compatriots who are staunchly struggling for democratic national rights and the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification. [applause]

In the name of the WPK Central Committee and our people, I also extend militant greetings and firm solidarity to the working class and working people in all countries of the world who are struggling against imperialism and colonialism and for peace, democracy, national sovereignty, and social progress. I also warmly welcome comrades and friends from various countries who are present at this meeting. [applause]

Comrades: More than 100 years have passed since the working class and people of the world began to celebrate May Day as a militant holiday which demonstratres the united might of the international working class.

Over this long historic period of time, all of the world's working class and working masses have consistently launched the sacred struggle for freedom and liberation, confronting the imperialist reactionary forces, under the banner of unity.

History, in which the working class is charged with the sacred mission of breaking the chains of capitalism and building a new society free from exploitation and oppression, has endlessly struggled and is on course to make a breakthrough in ruining capitalism's stronghold. History is also on course to pioneer the road of revolution with a unified might, overcoming manifold difficulties and ordeals under the slogan: Workers of the world, unite!

Mankind's history has endlessly advanced by virtue of the united struggle of the working class and working masses to oppose domination and subjugation of capitalism and to realize independence. As a result, the world's face has fundamentally changed.

Today mankind is faced with a new transition period in historic development. Over a long period of time, the era of domination and subjugation, which suppressed and exploited the popular masses and forcibly imposed all sorts of humiliation and inequality on them, ended, and the new age, in which all the countries and all the people pioneer their destiny independently, is developing.

It is the prevailing trend of our times, which no force can block, that the working class and working masses in the entire world are advancing along the true road of human emancipation, the road of independence, as masters of their destiny, and the initiative to develop human history at present is not in the hands of the imperialists and colonialists but in the hands of the people who are struggling against imperialism and for peace, national independence, and social progress.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Leading an equally happy life in a free and peaceful world, free from domination, subjugation, aggression, and war, is mankind's ideal which is based on the social nature of independent man, and aspiring to live in such a new world is the basic trend of historic development.

Difficulties or twists and turns may lie ahead in the struggle process of the working class in carrying out its historic mission, but it is nothing but a temporary phenomenon.

Concerning the present collapse of socialism in some countries, the imperialists and reactionaries are clamoring as if the cause of independence of the working class has been completely frustrated. This indicates that they are ignorant of the inevitable nature of historic development.

Despite the maneuvers of the imperialists and reactionaries who are trying to reverse the historic progress movement, exploitation and suppression running counter to man's real character of independence are rejected with each passing day, and history is bound to develop along the road of independence which the popular masses are heading toward.

The revolutionary cause of the working class is, in essence, the cause of independence and the cause of socialism. To smoothly fulfill their historic cause, the working class should, first of all, firmly build up their chuche revolutionary force, that is their vanguard detachment, and, on this basis, carry out the country's revolution.

Our party and leader, cherishing in their hearts their sacred mission and noble responsibility before the Korean revolutionary and the world's revolution, has victoriously waged the long, arduous struggle for sovereignty, independence, and socialism by paying attention to strengthening the revolution's basis.

During the most dark period of Japanese imperialist rule when national misfortunes were hovering heavily, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, shouldering the fatherland's destiny, embarked on the revolutionary road, developed Marxism-Leninism in compliance with the Korean revolution's concrete circumstances and the new era's demands, created the immortal, imperishable chuche idea, raised the consciousness of and organized the working class and various other strata of popular masses, and through this strongly built the revolution's main forces. In this way, he led the difficult and complicated Korean revolution along the straight road of victory. [applause]

When the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song started the anti- Japanese revolution, a new turn was made in the struggle by the working class and the popular masses against exploitation and oppression. In the world arena, the working class' revolutionary struggle, as well as the struggle by people of various countries against colonialism and for liberation, was heightened to the utmost. In this way, a new era opened when the revolutionary movement was being developed in a broad fashion and in various ways.

Under the new historic conditions, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song declared the outstanding idea that, to advance the revolution, the independent main forces of the revolution must be strengthened by strongly building the working class in each country and by strongly uniting all the masses, who had interests in the revolution, centered on the working class. He also brilliantly implemented this idea throughout the entire period when he was leading the Korean revolution, thus firmly ensuring the revolution's boundless development.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song wisely led the struggle to overcome the shortcomings of our country's early labor movement and its movement for national liberation, which had repeated painful failures and twists due to toadyism, doctrinism, and the idea of relying on outside forces, to build main forces in the Korean revolution, and to strongly rally the workers, peasants, and people of all walks of life under the anti-Japanese banner. As a result, with their own strong revolutionary forces and without assistance from the rear or regular forces, Korea's genuine revolutionaries and patriotic people brilliantly achieved victory in the long, arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle against the brigandish Japanese imperialist aggressors who armed themselves to the teeth. The revolutionaries and people also achieved victory in the historic cause of the fatherland's liberation. [applause]

Even under those difficult and complicated circumstances after the liberation, our people built the popular democratic system of our own style in the northern half, defended their new system and won great victory in the three-year fierce Fatherland Liberation War against the armed invasion by foreign imperialists by displaying heroic spirit, and turned our country into a powerful independent, self-sufficient socialist country capable of a self-reliant defense in a very short period of time by brilliantly implementing our party's policies on the chuche-oriented socialist revolution and socialist construction amid arduous trials after the war. Our people could do so because they inherited the honorable chuche-oriented revolutionary tradition, which was achieved during the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and carried out their tasks based on the chuche-oriented self-reliant forces of our revolution who were strongly united around the party and the leader. [applause]

By nature, socialism is a working class society, and to build a completed socialism that has its own identity, one must continue the revolution even after achieving victory in the socialist revolution and thoroughly remake all fields of society in compliance with the tastes and demands of the working class.

Our party has completely realized the slogan calling for the abolition of class, a slogan that the working class has held high since the day the working class appeared in the realm of history and has successfully created the fundamental conditions for building a classless society without deviation by waging the struggle for turning all of society into revolutionaries and workers. Our party has also waged the struggle for remodeling social relations based on the working class model using it as the main force in carrying out the ideological revolution, the technological revolution, and the cultural revolution in accordance with the new conditions wherein the socialist revolution has been developed and the socialist system has been established in our country. The party grasps the model as a powerful weapon for uniting the revolutionary ranks.

To realize the main force's demand for independence by strengthening it and by raising its role is the guiding principle of the revolution and construction that have embodied the chuche idea. Our party has concentrated efforts primarily on strengthening the main force and on raising its role in the struggle against imperialism or the struggle for socialist construction and has undertaken all the projects designed to remodel nature and society in accordance with the main force.

Our party's line to realize chuche in ideology, independence in politics, self-reliance in economy, and self-defense in national defense, as well as our party's general line of socialist construction to vigorously wage the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural, while strengthening the people's government, all embody the chuche-based guiding principle.

It was the most valuable revolutionary gain scored in the long struggle by our people to achieve independence under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. Therefore, the main force of our revolution, with all the people firmly united with one ideological will around the party, has been cemented like bedrock as an invincible force in which the leader, the party, and the masses unite together. Herein lies the secret of all victories achieved in our revolution and construction. [applause]

Socialism, which we have constructed, is the popular masses-centered socialism, in which the independent chuche of the revolution was realized in the single-minded unity of the party and the popular masses, in which chuche took firm roots in all fields—political, economic, and cultural, and in which everything serves mankind.

Our country's socialism is the most superior socialism, which realizes the working popular masses' independence in all aspects of three fields of social life—political life, cultural life and material life—and which directs all the social benefits to them. It is also the most solid, vital, and invincible socialism, in which the leader, the party, and the popular masses share the same fate, weal and woe, while leading one social, political life.

The superiority and invincibility of our country's socialism lie in the fact that the revolutionary powerful main force stands firm in the people's single-minded unity with the party and leader, that socialism is developing on the firm foundation of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense, and that the people's independent and creative socialist life is brought to full-scale bloom. [applause]

This enables our socialism to unshakably demonstrate its superiority and to advance with confidence amid the ever-intensifying antisocialist and antirepublic maneuvers of the imperialists and reactionaries amid the rapidly changing complex situation. [applause]

The unity and cohesion of the party and the popular masses, which was realized based on chuche ideology in the long, arduous struggle, are at core of our party's glorious revolutionary tradition.

Today, inheriting our party's revolutionary tradition and uniting solidly around the dear comrade Kim Chong-il and the party's Central Committee, all our working class and working people constitute a powerful main force which will inherit the revolution generation to generation. [applause]

The single-minded unity in which the entire party, all the people, and the entire army are firmly united in one ideological will around the party and the leader is a basic guarantee for the ultimate victory of socialism's cause and the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

Leading our people's revolutionary struggle and construction work and consistently upholding the banner of anti-imperialist struggle and proletarian internationalism, our party has worked hard at strengthening militant unity and solidarity with the international working class and progressive people.

By always strictly maintaining the revolutionary position and principle of the working class in advancing the revolutionary struggle and construction work, our party strengthened the revolutionary and socialist camp in the Orient and actively supported and encouraged the struggle of the international working class and the revolutionary people under the slogan: Let us unite with the world's people who advocate independence.

Our party has steadily struggled to strengthen the unity of the international communist movement with socialist countries, to support the anti-imperialist struggle for national liberation of oppressed people and the revolutionary movement of the people of all countries, to develop friendly, cooperative relations with all countries, including countries of the Third World, which are friendly to our country, to oppose the aggression and war policy of the imperialists, and to realize world peace and mankind's progress.

While thoroughly defending our people's national independent right, our party, which is developing relations with other countries based on the principle of complete equality and mutual respect, respects other countries' independent right and independently solved all the problems arising in the fields of foreign relations in accordance with our people's interest and the world people's common interest.

By virtue of our party's correct foreign policy based on independence, peace, and friendship and positive external activities, the international relations of our party and the Republic's government have been broadened greatly, and our people have come to have a large number of friends and well-wishers throughout the world.

The historic experience gained by our revolution in the course of making giant strides in its march along the straightforward road to socialism, in the whirlpool of history, in determining the fate and future of the revolution while upholding the banner of anti-imperialist independence and the banner of unity, show that when the working class and working masses in all the countries value unity as most precious and tirelessly struggle for the united strength of their own people and the international revolutionary force, they can build a new happy society in which independence is fully realized and construct an independent, peaceful, and prosperous new world.

Our party and people will, as in the past, strengthen the main force of our revolution in the future and accelerate the consummation of our revolutionary cause by developing the militant solidarity and ties with the working class and progressive people of the world without interruption and actively contribute to realizing an independent world. [applause]

The mightiest weapon to defeat all manner of attacks and challenges from the imperialists and reactionaries and to defend and safeguard and glorify the popular masses-centered socialism of our style on the road of fulfilling the chuche revolutionary cause is none other than single-minded unity. [applause]

Upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and firmly uniting around the party and the leader, our working class and all the people will strengthen our party's single-minded unity and revolutionary rank in every way, making loyalty to the party and the leader part of their faith, conscience, morality, and life. They can also firmly prepare themselves as genuine chuche-type communist revolutionaries who devote their lives to our revolution's ultimate victory.

Upholding with all one's heart the party's militant slogan: Let us make socialism of our style shine on the strength of single-minded unity, we should firmly adhere to and more firmly consolidate the single-minded unity of the leader, the party, and the masses under any kind of changing situation, and smash antisocialist and anti-Republic schemes of external and internal enemies with the might of invincibility and consummate the cause of chuche-based socialism to the end.

The party's leadership is the first life of the working class and the source of indomitable strength. Without the party's leadership, the working class can not smoothly carry out the mission and responsibility it bears before time and history.

Only when it is under the party's leadership can the working class fulfill its tasks and role as the leadership class of the revolution. The working class is the core unit of the people who constitute the main force of socialist society and the leading political organization that takes the lead in socialist and communist construction.

All the working class and people should make it a firm principle of their work and activities to uphold the party's leadership and ideology, unconditionally accept and consistently carry through our party's chuche revolutionary line and policy to the end, and brilliantly realize the party's cause designed to build socialism in accordance with the main force by completely bringing steely discipline to the party by which the entire party moves as one under the party center's unitary guidance. They should also move as one under the unified leadership of the party center.

Today, our working class and people are faced with a grave yet glorious task to further consolidate and develop socialism of our own style. They must further consolidate and develop the valuable revolutionary gains won through our people's arduous and bloody struggle, under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the party, and advance the fatherland's independent reunification and the ultimate victory of the chuche revolutionary cause by accelerating the march in the 1990's.

By deeply realizing the importance of missions assigned by the era and history, the entire working class and all people should strengthen the people's government and constantly enhance its functions and role. Thus, we should fully display the superiority and might of popular mass-centered socialism of our own style in all fields of social life, including political, economic and political by brilliantly accomplishing our party's general line for thoroughly implementing the three revolutions—ideological, technological and cultural.

We should cherish the concept that the Korean nation is number one and carry out the revolutions by upholding the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja]. We should thus effect a new revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction with the Paektu revolutionary spirit under the slogan of unerring faith: What the party decides, we will do. Thus, we should adorn this significant year as the year of the most brilliant victory and glory in the history of our people's revolutionary struggle.

Today it is the unanimous desire of all the people and a most urgent task laid before our working class and people to reunify the nation by ending its division.

Thanks to sincere efforts of our party and the Republic's government, the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and South and the Joint Declaration on Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula were adopted and effectuated. Thus, a new phase in the struggle for national reunification is being opened.

Firmly adhering to the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity, we will expedite the historic cause of national reunification with united strength of all compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas.

The South Korean authorities, since they signed the historic North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearization with us and declared their willingness to implement it to the entire world, should discard the nation-selling, flunkeyist idea of depending on outside forces as well as the anticommunist confrontation line, in compliance with the spirit of the agreements. Thus, they should take practical steps for national reunification by taking a stand for national independence.

Since the North and the South pledged to resolve the nation's issue of peaceful reunification with the driving force of the nation, the United States should no longer remain in South Korea. Giving up its anachronistic wild fancy, it should completely withdraw all occupation forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea and should abolish all military bases including nuclear bases. Thus, the United States should remove its hands of domination and interference.

The way for the South Korean workers to eliminate today's miserable situation is by the struggle to realize independence and democracy of South Korean society and to achieve national reunification.

By strengthening solidarity with the people from all social strata including youth, students, and farmers, the South Korean workers should courageously struggle to force the U.S. imperialist aggressors to withdraw from South Korea and to realize the independence and democracy in South Korean society with unified might.

They should boldly struggle to achieve the cause of national reunification in the nineties without fail.

Our people's just struggle for sovereignty of the nation and national reunification enjoys warm support and encouragement from a broad range of the world's people.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express deep thanks to political parties, governments, and peoples of all nations who always and sincerely support and encourage our people's just cause for the peaceful reunification of the nation. I also express firm belief that they will extend firm solidarity with our people's cause for reunification in the future, too. [applause]

Today the acute struggle between socialism and imperialism and between progressive people and reactionaries is being waged in the international arena. The imperialists, under the ambition to realize global domination of the world by completely erasing socialism and by restoring the colonial ruling system, are adhering to such cunning tactics as applying military and political pressure, threatening, economic buying-up and subjugation, ideological and cultural depravity, alienation and disintegration.

However, no matter how wildly the imperialists may maneuver, they cannot reverse the flow of history advancing toward a new independent world. The downfall of imperialism and victory of socialism are a natural course of history. [applause]

Today the imperialists and reactionaries are viciously maneuvering to erase socialism and progressive forces of the world in collaboration with each other as a unified force internationally. Under this circumstance, the working class and people of the entire world should strengthen their comradely unity, cooperation, and ties of solidarity based on the principle of independence and equality.

Doing this is the international obligation for the working class and progressive people of the world and is the work for their own cause.

The working class and people of the entire world should firmly unite under the anti-imperialist banner for independence by adhering to revolutionary principles, and should defend and advance socialism on an international scale. They should strengthen mutual support and solidarity in the struggle for social justice, democracy, the right to existence, and peace against domination and colonization by the imperialists and the capitalists.

The Workers Party of Korea and our people will develop friendship and cooperative relations with the progressive people of the world including the people in socialist countries and nonaligned countries based on the ideal of independence, peace, and friendship. We will actively support and encourage the struggle of the people in all countries for independence, peace, national independence, and social progress. Thus, we will actively contribute to the common cause of mankind for achieving the independence of the world.

At a time when the imperialists are continuously adhering to the policy of strength by putting on the mask of peace, it is very important to further develop the peace movement.

We will check and frustrate the imperialists' maneuvers of aggression, interference, and disturbance, in firm unity with all peaceloving people of the world. We will make all efforts to abolish mass lethal weapons, including nuclear weapons, which threaten the existence of mankind, and to safeguard peace and security in Asia and the world.

Our working class and people, who are fighting with a firm belief in the justness of socialism and with single-hearted unity under the refined leadership of the party, will be ever-victorious and invincible. [applause]

Let us all the more vigorously fight to accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause in firm unity with the dear comrade leader by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people! [shouting of slogans and applause]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer and guide of all victories of the Korean people! [shouting of slogans and applause]

Long live the May Day, the international holiday demonstrating the might of unity of the working class of the entire world! [shouting of slogans and applause]

South Korea

Safety Measures Ordered for Los Angeles Koreans

SK0205022292 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 May 92 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u ordered the cabinet yesterday to take steps to secure the safety of Korean residents in Los Angeles who have been affected by the massive rioting.

He told Prime Minister Chong Won-sik to ask the U.S. government for help in an effort to protect the lives and property of Koreans in the city, a presidential spokesman said.

At a prayer session earlier in the day, the President also expressed concern about the violence in the U.S. city, expressing hope for the early restoration of peace and order there.

"Let's pray for the safety of our brethren in Los Angeles where they are now experiencing extreme disturbances, including murders, arson and other violent acts," No told about 1,000 attendants at the session arranged by the Christian circle.

No praised the churches for their contribution to the nation's democratic development, while asking them to continue to work for national harmony and unity.

The President said that during his remaining term of office, he will devote himself to promoting democratic development, economic stability and inter-Korean relations.

Attendants at the prayer session, held at the 63-story Korea Life Insurance building in Yoido, included ruling party Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam and Chong Chu-yong, head of the opposition Unification National Party.

Premier Chong later in the day chaired a meeting of selected cabinet members to discuss the rioting in Los Angeles and other U.S. cities.

Daily: U.S. Must Make Race Relations Priority

SK0205020692 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 2 May 92 p 6

[Editorial: "Black Riot in LA"]

[Text] In the 1960s the United States had to deal with a great domestic crisis, mainly stemming from racial tension between blacks and whites. It culminated in the Watts riots that started with the arrest of a black man and ended with 34 people dead and a large area of the black neighborhood burned in 1965.

Since the worst period of the 60s, the nation of the melting pot, as it was called, had placed the issues of racial harmony and the elimination of discrimination at the top of its national priorities. Its political system and the conscience of the nation called for genuine reconciliation among all people.

The system has tried and a great number of people of reason have worked hard to build a better nation, but they have apparently failed and once again the city of Los Angeles has become the battleground of rioters and looters, with lawlessness prevailing through almost the entire city.

The immediate cause of the violence and rioting in L.A. now reportedly spreading to other major cities across the country was the acquittal Wednesday of four white policemen involved in the beating of a black motorist over a year ago. Many Americans, either black or white, were stunned at the not guilty verdict, having themselves seen an amateur videotape of the bizarre scene of the four policemen clubbing black motorist Rodney King. This showcase of American police brutality, particularly against minority races, became the object of attention around the world.

We are now concerned with the racial tensions building up in the U.S. which also directly affect Koreans living there. The timing of the new flare-up in the U.S. is unfortunate as recently there have been worsened feelings between Koreans and blacks right there in L.A. since a Korean shopowner was given probation for the shooting death of a black girl who the Korean had accused of shoplifting.

Already there are indications that many Korean grocery stores have been broken into and set on fire as they are located in predominantly black neighborhoods. Although the black frustration and anger is directed more against white Americans and the political and social structure, Koreans living in L.A. have been sandwiched in between the two and have suffered from these unfortunate incidents.

The Korean government has already expressed its grave concern over the safety of Koreans in the city, and the U.S. government has promised to do its best to protect them and their property as well but official actions alone cannot guarantee an early improvement of the situation.

It is hoped that Koreans in L.A. realize and recognize that blacks in the U.S. are not against Koreans per se, but rather they are expressing their frustration and anger with the discriminatory American system, which has in practice kept them hopelessly at the bottom of the social ladder. Even many others who know American society well are distressed watching the American scene not making genuine progress in the fight to end discrimination among the races while it remains the leader of the civilized world.

America has been long known as the land of opportunity, and also as the land of immigrants. The nation has accordingly drawn many different races to its vast land and has most successfully built and operated a democratic political system. But it was the wicked part of human nature that created and cultivated the vices of discrimination and hate based on nothing but the color of skin.

Of course, the current domestic crisis the world is now witnessing may not be caused by any single one reason. As a matter of fact, the latest economic and social conditions causing more unemployment among blacks could be an underlying factor. But the American tragedy of the urban crisis, appeared in the riots in L.A. and other cities, may be traced to the historical mistreatment of American blacks and the lack of repentance by American whites.

Therefore, the nation has to deal [with] this issue with top priority, not only on the level of formal political systems but through the exercise of individual conscience. In this respect, it is encouraging to see that the candidacies of Pat Buchanan and David Duke in the presidential race have been rebuked more or less, though there have been some persistent followings noticed.

We do not doubt that the great nation of America will resolve the current crisis boldly in a way that will lead all Americans, both blacks and whites, and other nonwhites, to forgive each other for the ill feeling created among themselves. The healing of the wounds will take place and we want to see this happen soon.

Pyongyang Agrees to Nuclear Inspection Schedule

SK0605073492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0704 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 6 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea will finish talks on mutual nuclear inspection guidelines by end of the month, Choe U-chin, a North Korean delegate to the 7th inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, said Wednesday.

In addition, North Korea would accept inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on schedule, Choe told a press conference after the first session of the talks.

Pyongyang wanted to settle all the details of inter-Korean mutual inspection by the end of May as well, he said.

South and North Korea have agreed to conduct their first mutual inspections within 20 days of the guidelines being settled, which could be mid-June, according to Choe.

North Korean delegation spokesman An Pyong-su said that Pyongyang would not attach any conditions to a reunion of members of separated families, not even the immediate release of Im Su-kyong and Mun Ik-hwan, jailed for visiting North Korea without permission from the South Korean Government.

The political, military, and exchanges and cooperation committees would be formed by the May 18 deadline, An said, but it had to be linked to the adoption of subsidiary agreements.

North Korea has insisted on adopting subsidiary agreements before forming the joint committees.

"Doing one without the other is meaningless," An told reporters. "The two issues are closely linked."

South Korean spokesman Yi Tong-pok said he was "cautiously optimistic" about the chances of reaching an agreement on forming the committees and opening liaison offices.

Although North Korea had said it would unconditionally accept proposals for family reunions, it basically had "different ideas" about the project, he said.

"What South Korea proposes is a family reunion as a first inter-Korean joint project after the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression and exchanges and cooperation went into effect last February," Yi told reporters.

"What North Korea has in mind is a continuation of family reunions arranged through Red Cross societies back in 1985," he said.

Yi was also firm about conducting mutual nuclear inspections, saying there was a "certain timetable" that must be met.

"I cannot reveal what the timetable is at this point," he said.

North's IAEA Report Reveals New Facilities

SK0605004092 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2200 GMT 5 May 92

[Report by Vienna correspondent Cha Man-sun]

[Text] North Korea either has already constructed research facilities for nuclear reprocessing or is building them now. In its first report to the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] on 4 May, North Korea disclosed the following: a plant for making nuclear fuel rods and a nuclear materials storehouse at Yongbyon, a five-megawatt experimental reactor in operation at the Yongbyon Institute of Nuclear Physics, and a radiochemical laboratory at the Institute of Radiochemistry under construction at Yongbyon.

According to the IAEA, North Korea reported that these nuclear facilities conduct research into the separation of uranium and plutonium, the handling of nuclear waste, and the training of nuclear technicians. Nuclear experts, however, worry that these research facilities may be used for military purposes.

North Korea's IAEA report also includes new, detailed information on 12 nuclear facilities, including a 50-megawatt nuclear power plant under construction at Yongbyon, another 200-megawatt nuclear power plant under construction in North Pyongang Province, and plans for constructing three 635-megawatt reactors for a nuclear power plant. These nuclear facilities previously had not been disclosed.

North Korea has invited IAEA Director General Hans Blix to visit North Korea 12-16 May.

Enriched Uranium Plants in DPRK Confirmed

SK0605034592 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 6 May 92

[Report by Vienna correspondent Cha Man-sun]

[Text] The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] confirmed that North Korea is now building a plutonium separation device and has two enriched uranium production plants. Based on the nuclear materials report submitted by North Korea to the IAEA, North Korea has 14 nuclear facilities, including two uranium production plants and the Institute of Radiochemistry, which is under construction in North Korea.

The Institute of Radiochemistry in Yongbyon is constructing a radiochemical laboratory to separate uranium and plutonium, handle nuclear waste, and train nuclear technicians. Some nuclear expert specialists believe this laboratory is a nuclear fuel reprocessing facility.

DPRK Admits Producing Plutonium at Yongbyon

SK0505153392 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1300 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] U.S. scholars disclosed that North Korea admitted to producing small quantities of plutonium at its controversial nuclear installation in Yongbyon that could be used as raw material for nuclear weapons.

Three nuclear experts from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, after ending a week-long visit to North Korea, said this in a report in Beijing today. They said that the North side stressed that this plutonium is being used for routine civilian research and that the nuclear installation in Yongbyon is not operating to extract plutonium for the production of weapons through nuclear fuel reprocessing.

Yon Hyong-muk Proposes Reunions of N-S Elderly

SK0605080892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0742 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea may open their border to selected groups of old people and artists for reunions with loved ones to mark Liberation Day, Aug. 15.

North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk proposed Tuesday in the inter-Korean prime ministerial talks that groups of old people and artists with relatives in the other half be exchanged through the South and North Korean Red Cross organizations for reunions.

"The visiting groups of old people shall comprise 100 old people each and the groups of artists shall comprise 70 artists each, and the visits shall take place on the occasion of National Liberation Day," Yon said.

The only time the border has been opened so far was in 1985 for a reunion. Many families were split up when the Korean peninsula was divided into capitalist South and communist North in 1945.

Yon urged South Korea to release the Rev. Mun Ikhwan, Im Su-kyung and other people jailed for visiting Pyongyang without permission.

He also called for South Korea to allow Yi In-mo to return to North Korea. Yi is a North Korean war correspondent taken prisoner during the Korean war.

Supplementary pacts pertaining to the political, military, and exchanges and cooperation subcommittees should be bundled into one comprehensive supplementary agreement, he said.

He suggested forming a joint political committee for reconciliation and calling it the joint reconciliation committee.

North Korea's prime minister proposed forming just military, political, and exchanges and cooperation joint committees, instead of the larger number of joint committees proposed by the South.

Yon said Pyongyang hoped that differences on installing and operating the North-South liaison office at Panmunjom would be solved without difficulty, advancing a proposal on contacts of subcommittee chairmen.

On nuclear issues, Yon accused South Korea of insisting on inspection of a fictitious nuclear weapons program in the North while refusing inspection of real U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in the South.

All U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea should be included in the inspection as the threat of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula resulted from the presence of nuclear weapons in South Korea, he charged.

He insisted on the withdrawal of U.S. forces stationed in the South and abolition of the National Security Law, and called for diversification of unified dialogue channel for unification issues in the South.

Premiers Agree on Exchange of Visiting Groups

SK0605025092 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] At the first day open meeting of the South-North high-level talks, both sides of the South and North agreed in principle to exchange congratulatory visiting groups to commemorate the 15 August National Liberation Day which will be celebrated for the first time since the effectuation of the basic agreement.

In his keynote speech, our side's Prime Minister Chong Won-sik proposed that the 15 August congratulatory visiting groups be mutually exchanged as a symbol of opening a new era between the South and North. He said that the scope of the visiting group should be composed of 300 people, including members of separated families, politicians, economists, professors, students, and reporters.

Regarding this, North side's Premier Yon Hyong-muk proposed that elderly home-visiting groups and performing art groups be exchanged on the occasion of the 15 August National Liberation Day, thus accepting in principle our side's proposal.

North side's Premier Yon said that the scope of the visiting group should be composed of 100 elderly home-visiting groups and 70 artists composing the performing art group. He also proposed that details of the working-level problems should be discussed by resuming the Red Cross talks.

In connection with this, Premier Yon proposed that exchanges of the 15 August visiting groups be declared through a joint declaration at the seventh round of talks.

Regarding nuclear inspection, our side's Prime Minister Chong Won-sik emphasized that South-North mutual inspection should be carried out some time in early June to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Prime Minister Chong also said that a special inspection system is certainly necessary. That is, the other side's site for nuclear inspection should be specified, and if there is no particular reason for not doing so, the other side must respond to this.

North's Premier Not To Meet With President No

SK0605032492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0306 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 6 (YONHAP)—The North Korean prime minister will not be calling on South Korean President No Tae-u during this week's high-level inter-Korean talks, southern spokesman Yi Tong-pok said Wednesday.

Informal working-level contacts would continue through the afternoon on forming joint political, military, and exchanges and cooperation committees and on opening liaison offices, Yi said.

North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk crossed the border through the village of Panmunjom Tuesday for the 7th inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, taking place here until Friday.

Yon and South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik will hold two sessions, Wednesday and Thursday.

Visiting the press center before Wednesday's session, Yi said working-level delegates from the two sides met for two hours from 3 P.M. Tuesday and again from 1:30 A.M. Wednesday.

He and vice unification minister Yim Tong-won met with North Korean spokesman An Pyong-su and roving Ambassador Choe U-chin, Yi said.

"The talks concentrated on opening the liaison office and on forming the three joint and other necessary committees," he said.

Asked if Seoul would still demand mutual nuclear inspection despite Pyongyang's submission of an initial report to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on nuclear materials, Yi said there was no change in Seoul's position.

N-S Agree on Joint Committee, Liaison Office

SK0605032592 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] At a meeting following a banquet arranged by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik on 5 May, North and South delegates agreed that a joint committee and liaison office should be formed first to implement the basic agreement between the two countries. Afterwards, a supplementary agreement should be adopted.

An authority from our side said two people each from the South and North participated in last night's delegates' contact. According to our authority, the North side said it will accept our proposal.

The authority emphasized that a very important proposal will be put forth in the North side's keynote speech today and that nuclear inspection discussions have progressed considerably.

The authority also revealed that soon after today's opening meeting, both sides will hold another delegates' contact and carry out final negotiations to adjust each side's position.

South, North 'Likely To Sign' Agreements 7 May

SK0605101692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0925 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea are likely to sign and immediately put into effect agreements Thursday on forming joint committees and opening liaison offices, sources said Wednesday.

South and North Korean Prime ministers Chong Won-sik and Yon Hyong-muk are to sign the agreements at the second and final day session of the ongoing seventh inter-Korean high-level talks, the sources said.

The agreements cover establishing joint committees on military, economic exchanges and cooperation, social and cultural exchanges and cooperation, and opening liaison offices at the truce village of Panmunjom, they said.

But the two sides still differ on details to forming a joint political committee, and working-level officials are to continue negotiations Thursday afternoon, sources said.

The two sides have also neared consensus on arranging family reunions to mark the 47th anniversary of the independence day that ended 35 years of Japanese colonial rule over Korea.

Seoul and Pyongyang may announce the agreement on family reunion in a form of a joint statement, the sources said.

Negotiation on family reunions will be conducted through Red Cross Societies of both sides, they said.

Chong Won-sik's 6 May Keynote Address Reported

SK0605033892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0312 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea proposed to North Korea Wednesday an exchange of visitors to mark the 47th anniversary of liberation from 35 years of Japanese rule.

South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik proposed in his keynote speech at the 7th inter-Korean premiers' talks that Seoul and Pyongyang exchange groups of about 300 people for 10 days.

Chong urged North Korea to arrange reunions of members of families separated by the Korean war (1950-1953), at least for the older generation.

He also urged early acceptance of mutual nuclear inspection to dispel the nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula.

"I believe it will be a good idea for each side to organize a group of about 300, including members of separated families, politicians, business executives, artists, athletes, professors, students and journalists, to visit the other area for about 10 days," Chung said in his keynote speech.

"These visitors' groups can participate not only in the Liberation Day (Aug. 15) ceremonies but also in diverse other events, such as cultural programs, academic conferences and athletic meets held in each other's area to commemorate the national liberation of 1945," he said.

The idea could be discussed and finalized by the South-North Korean exchanges and cooperation committee, he said.

Chong lashed out at North Korean proposal for a pan-national rally on the liberation day, calling it a "political show" that is "a relic of the past era of South-North confrontation."

North Korea is turning a blind eye to the inter-Korean basic agreement by trying to organize the pan-national rally, student festival and political conference for the coming Liberation Day, the prime minister said.

"This indicates that even at this critical juncture when the authorities of the South and the North are involved in earnest discussions to implement the intra-Korean basic agreement that has already entered into force, your side is again trying to stage street struggles—a relic of the past era of South-North confrontation," he said.

The issue of dispersed families is the most urgent of the many pending tasks between the two sides, Chong pointed out.

"I believe that you will readily agree to our proposal to adopt the necessary concrete measures for family reunions and entrust the Red Crosses with their implementation, if you are genuinely determined to carry out the South-North basic agreement and are not to betray the yearning of the entire Korean people for an era of South-North reconciliation and cooperation," said Chong.

Mutual nuclear inspection is also an urgent task and the key to denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, he said.

"The best way to dispel the suspicion that a country already possesses nuclear weapons or is developing such weapons is by on-the-spot inspection of all its suspected facilities and sites to verify the facts," he said.

"Both sides, therefore, must carry out mutual inspections during early June through thoroughgoing procedures as they have already agreed," he said.

Reminding that this round of talks is the first since South and North Korea put into effect the Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression and Exchanges and Cooperation, Chong emphasized that this seventh round "must be a landmark occasion to complete all the necessary preparations for the South and the North to actually embark on the road of peace and unification and bringing all such efforts to a fruitful conclusion."

Documents on KAL 007 Downing Said Missing

SK0605020792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0054 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Moscow, May 6 (YONHAP)—Secret documents on the downing of Korean Air 007 [KAL] over Sakhalin in 1983 may have vanished after the attempted coup in Moscow last August.

In a meeting with South Korean Ambassador to Russia Hong Sun-yong, Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander-in-chief of the Commonwealth of Independent States' armed forces, said Tuesday that classified documents kept by the KGB and Defense Ministry at the time of the coup were missing.

Asked about the downing of the B-747 passenger jet by a Soviet fighter plane, Shaposhnikov said that no progress had been made in finding out exactly how it happened but efforts to seek the truth would continue.

Shaposhnikov said that if Hong wanted to meet with people involved in the downing, such as retired Marshal Nikolay Ogarkov, who was chief of the general staff at the time, he would set up the meetings.

To uncover classified material on the Korean war, Shaposhnikov said, joint research by specialists from both sides would be ideal and he could provide material support.

Chinese Sports Minister, Delegates Depart 2 May

SK0205020992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—Wu Shaozu, China's state physical culture and sports minister, and two other Chinese sports leaders left Korea Saturday winding up a week-long visit.

The two others are Wei Jizhong, general secretary of the China Olympic Committee, and Lu Shaozhong, director of the Sports Science Institute.

The Chinese sports officials discussed promotion of bilateral sports exchanges with South Korean Sports and Youth Minister Yi Chin-sam and visited Korean businesses during their stay.

Sports science institutes of South Korea and China adopted a memorandum on exchanges of sports science information and related materials, paving the way for active sports exchanges.

PRC Boats Fish in Area Near Demarcation Line

SK0505150392 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 3 May 92 p 15

[Report by reporter Kim Chae-hong from Paengnyong Island]

[Text] Chinese fishing vessels in large numbers have recently begun fishing in the waters near the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] between the North and the South near Paengnyong Island, the northernmost island south of the truce line in the West Sea, recklessly catching many valuable fish, urgently prompting us to take measures to cope with this situation.

The waters near Paengnyong Island are the best and largest fishing ground in our country, abounding with thornbacks, perch, and blue crabs.

However, the fishermen of the North and the South, seeing these Chinese fishing vessels overfishing in great quantities, cannot fish here, as they are banned from this military off-limits area.

According to the officers of a Marine Corps unit stationed on Paengnyong Island guarding this forefront base and protecting the fishermen, a group of about 60 vessels in the 150-ton class come to this fishing ground that runs from the high seas to North and South Korean territorial waters in the MDL area between this island and North Korea's Changsan Cape (in Ongjin County, Hwanghae Province) and have been fishing recklessly for four to five days per week.

The Chinese fishermen frequently intrude into our territorial waters while fishing in the high seas. When our naval vessels or coast guard patrol boats approach them, they flutter a Chinese flag and continue fishing, saying, "We are not North Korean fishermen," according to Navy officials in the area.

Despite the fact that the Chinese fishing vessels are fishing recklessly in our rich fishing ground like this, the fishermen on Paengnyong Island and in the Inchon area are helpless because they are prevented from fishing here in this off-limits area to the north, and because of the possibility of the North's abducting them if they fish in the high seas west of this island.

The government allows our fishermen to fish within 0.8 km northeast and within 1.6 km northwest of this island. Between the off-limits line and the MDL there is still a 4 km area in our territorial waters that can be utilized for our offshore fishing.

This situation of being unable to fish in the good fishing waters at hand is applicable to both North and South fishermen. The South has observed North Korea's prevention of its fishing boats from fishing in this area. At about 0730 on 29 April, two North Korean civilian vessels, which could have been fishing vessels, were heading toward the South in these waters when a North Korean patrol boat traced them and had them turn back to the North, according to an observation of a Marine Corps unit in Yonpyong.

The Chinese fishing vessels are frequently intruding into this area, taking advantage of the situation of both the North and South not daring to allow their fishing bosts into the fishing ground in their territorial waters and in the high seas in the border area between them.

The officers of the Marine Corps unit stationed on Paengnyong Island said, "our fishermen, who are unable to fish in this area because of the off-limits area which is to prevent such an incident as abduction, feel regretful at seeing third country fishermen fishing in troubled waters in the area where neither the North nor the South can fully exercise its control in the North-South confrontation."

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister Reaffirms Defense Cooperation With U.S.

BK0505141992 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0846 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 5 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will continue to have defence cooperation with the United States as both parties benefit from it, Defence Minister Najib Razak said Tuesday.

"It is not a defence pact and it will not become one," he said of the existing military collaboration between the two countries.

Najib was commenting on the call by the opposition party, Parti Rakyat Malaysia [Malaysian People's Party], for the dissolution of the 1984 Malaysia-U.S. defence arrangement.

The arrangement involved exercises and training, he said, explaining that the servicing of American military aircraft and ships at Malaysian facilities was a commercial undertaking.

He said Malaysia's cooperation [words indistinct] was different from that between the Americans and Singapore.

The island republic had a more elaborate agreement, including the stationing of personnel and hardware such as aircraft, Najib said.

"Ours is more of a practical arrangement, the servicing of aircraft and ships, and sometimes joint exercises.

"It may involve a certain degree of enhancement from time to time but will not entail the setting up of permanent bases," he said.

In any case, Najib said, the U.S. was not looking for new bases in the region.

Position Hailed

BK0505060892 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 1 May 92 p 10

[Editorial: "No Objection to U.S. Presence"]

[Text] The announcement by Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak that Malaysia supports the continuing American military presence in the Asian-Pacific region will have a mixed reception.

Some people will be mildly surprised given Malaysia's vocal criticism of American actions on some matters, EAEC [East Asia Economic Caucus] for instance, and may deem this step as an about-face. Datuk Sri Najib refuted this and said there has been no change in policy as Malaysia has always regarded the United States as a friend and it is not unusual to have differences among friends.

Others may argue that with the collapse of the former Soviet Union, U.S. presence is no longer required to provide the countervailing force. Its continuing presence, on the the other hand, will jeopardise ASEAN's Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (Zopfan). They further argue that American presence in Vietnam did not prevent that country's fall to communism, and its bases in the Philippines did not help the latter's fight against insurgency.

The advocates of the American presence, on the other hand, contend that it is essential to avoid a power vacuum in the region which can lead to tension and conflict. And this region certainly is not completely without potential sources of such an eventuality. The Spratly Islands, which are being claimed by various nations, readily come to mind.

Whatever the merits of the opposing arguments, it cannot be ignored that on a pragmatic level the American presence is not totally without merit. American business, whose investment in the region is not insubstantial by any account, will no doubt take much comfort from it and this cannot be dismissed lightly as ASEAN forms America's fifth largest trading partner. The two-way trade between the two increased from US$45 billion in 1990 to US$49 billion in 1991, with the balance in favour of ASEAN.

Even before this formal announcement, Malaysia did not object to the American presence per se, but only to the establishment of permanent bases in ASEAN to replace the Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in the Philippines.

Malaysia's vehement initial objection to the placing of U.S. Navy Logistic Command in Singapore arose largely from miscommunication than anything else as the republic neither consulted nor briefed its ASEAN neighbours beforehand. Once it was made clear that the republic would not provide a permanent base but only facilities for repairs, maintenance, and supplies, and the 200 personnel under the Logistic Command would deal with matters pertaining to this arrangement, it no longer became an issue.

Since then, Malaysia has done its part in assisting the American forces by providing repair facilities for their ships in the Lumut naval shipyards and their aeroplanes at the Airod depots.

As the present arrangement in Singapore and Malaysia is expected to continue, it is important that all parties involved exercise caution in all their dealings because as the transactions grow in volume, as they must over time, it is not inconceivable that the present perspective will be blurred.

The United States as the sole superpower needs to show greater sensitivity than it has in the past in its dealing with the individual countries in the region. The last thing anybody wants is for the present situation to mutate into a thorn in everyone's flesh.

Mahathir Begins Two-Day Visit to Sabah 30 Apr

BK3004122292 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has begun a two-day visit to Sabah. The prime minister was met at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport this morning by UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Secretary General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, who is also Information Minister and the state Barisan Nasional [National Front] leaders. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir later left for Tanjung Aru Beach Hotel for a meeting with Sabah UMNO leaders.

This evening he will be in Sandakan for a public rally.

Sabah Party's Return to National Front Ruled Out

BK0505092592 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 May 92 p 1

[By Manan Osman]

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, Fri.—Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad said today that it was too late for the Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) [Sabah United Party] to be accepted back into the Barisan Nasional [National Front].

The PBS, he said, cannot be readmitted to the Barisan because it was "a party without a definite principle and commitment."

Citing an example, he said that after the PBS, as an opposition party, won in the 1985 Sabah State elections, it applied to join the Barisan.

Although it was accepted, he said, this showed that the party was not striving for anything in particular and was even willing to cooperate with the Barisan, which fought against it in the elections, just to achieve its own aim.

In the 1990 general election in the Peninsula and parliamentary elections in Sabah and Sarawak, Dr. Mahathir said the party once again showed its true colours.

"While we were spending the days campaigning, it suddenly withdrew from the coalition as if there were conflicts between it and the Barisan.

"After the Barisan won and it (PBS) too managed to form the Government in Sabah, it once again applied to join us.

"However, we cannot accept this kind of people who have no principle or any commitment at all," he added.

He challenged the PBS to dissolve the State Assembly to pave the way for State elections.

Speaking to reporters after opening the first general assembly of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) at the Kian Kok Secondary School hall in Jalan Tuaran near here today, he said if the PBS really wanted to rejoin the Barisan, it had to change its attitude.

However, he has detected no change in PBS' attitude even when it directly or indirectly applied to rejoin the Barisan.

There is also no change in its attitude towards cooperation with other Barisan component parties.

The prime minister was here on a two-day official visit to the State.

Asked whether he was expecting a snap election in Sabah soon, Dr. Mahathir said State elections were under the jurisdiction of the State governments.

"If the Sabah Government dissolves the Assembly, then an election will have to be held.

"We do not know when but we are always ready," he added.

Mahathir: UMNO Against Imposition of Islamic Laws

BK0505121792 Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 3 May 92 p 1

[By Sa'odah Elias]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat.—UMNO [United Malays National Organization] will never consent to the implementation of hudud [Islamic] laws in the states ruled by the Barisan Nasional [National Front], Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said today.

The party, he said, believed that the stand it had adopted was consistent with Islamic jurisprudence which advocated that the rulers, to ensure justice for all, take into consideration the existing social and political situation before implementing certain laws.

"UMNO's stand is that the hudud laws cannot be implemented in Malaysia because it is a multireligious and multiracial country," he told a press conference after the UMNO Supreme Council meeting which he chaired.

Dr. Mahathir, who is the UMNO president, said he would not try to stop Kelantan from implementing the hudud laws if the PAS [Pan-Malaysia Islamic Party]-led State Government could show that it was doing so to uphold the Islamic teachings and not solely for political interests.

"But we have reason to believe that PAS is not sincere in its decision to implement the law and is instead trying to gain political mileage through it.

"By proposing it, they want to put UMNO in a difficult situation because they think that we will try to stop them. If that happens, they can then tell the public it is UMNO that is stopping them from implementing the law," he said.

Dr. Mahathir said it was clear that the PAS Government in Kelantan was politically motivated when it announced the proposed implementation of the law.

He said the PAS Government, believing that UMNO would try to stop them, had not even made an in-depth study of the law and how it should be implemented.

Because of that, he said, UMNO would not make any move to stop it from implementing the law in Kelantan.

However, Dr. Mahathir said UMNO wanted to know more about the law and how the Kelantan Government was going to implement it.

PAS 'Politicizing' Issue

BK0505142192 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said today the police report lodged by PAS [Pan-Malaysian Islamic Party] over his speech in Sabah last week about implementation of hudud [Islamic] laws in Kelantan was aimed at politicizing the issue. PAS had a mischievous intention as it wanted to attract public attention by creating [words indistinct] on various issues such as the implementation of the hudud laws. The prime minister was speaking at a press conference in Ipoh.

PAS Youth head Abu Bakar Chik lodged the police report at the Kota Setar Police Station yesterday alleging that Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir's speech at the Jami Mosque in Papar on 1 May contravened Section 298 (A) of the Penal Code.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said PAS is trying to gag him in an attempt to cover up their mistakes. He also questioned the statement by Kelantan Menteri Besar [Chief Minister] Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat yesterday that the hudud laws in the state would not apply to non-muslims. The prime minister said Nik Aziz had no authority to issue such a fatwa [ruling]. He observed that in Islamic countries like Saudi Arabia the hudud laws were applicable to every one.

On the statement by DAP [Democratic Action Party] Vice Chairman Karpal Singh that the DAP would oppose the implementation of hudud laws in Kelantan, the prime minister said the DAP's stand was questionable as the party supported PAS during the last general elections which resulted in the MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association] candidate for Kota Baharu being defeated by the PAS candidate.

Cambodia

SNC Member Receives U.S. Envoy Twining

BK0505111492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] On 30 April, His Excellency [H.E.] Im Chhunlim, education minister and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, received H.E. Charles Twining, special representative of the United States to Cambodia.

During the talks, H.E. Im Chhunlim informed the U.S. representative about the restoration and reconstruction of the education sector for more than 13 years which has produced gradual progress adequately responding to the people's educational needs. H.E. Im Chhunlim also expressed optimism over the positive development of the implementation of the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia with the active participation of the international community.

H.E. Charles Twining highly appreciated the State of Cambodia's efforts and correct stance in the restoration and reconstruction of Cambodia. He stressed that the Cambodian people will certainly achieve peace to develop the motherland in accordance with the Paris peace agreement.

Sihanouk Returns to Phnom Penh 6 May

BK0605115192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] At 1600 [0900 GMT] on 6 May, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian SNC, and his royal consort, returned safely to Phnom Penh after spending two weeks in the PRC for a medical checkup.

Greeting HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the royal consort at Pochentong airport were His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State; H.E. Chea Sim, chairman of both the CPP Central Committee and the State of Cambodia's National Assembly; H.E. Hun Sen, vice chairman of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers; Their Excellencies members of the CPP Standing Committee; and leading officials of the State of Cambodia's Government, such as H.E. Chea Soth, H.E. Say Chhum, standing vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; H.E. Mat Ly, vice chairman of the Control Commission of the CPP Central Committee; H.E. Nguon Nhel, agriculture minister; H.E. Ney Pena, vice chairman of the Control Commission of the CPP Central Committee; H.E. General Sin Song, minister of national security; H.E. Sim Ka, chairman of both the Phnom Penh municipal party committee and people's committee; H.E. General Pol Saroeun, deputy defense minister and chief of the Cambodian People's Army [CPA]'s General Staff; H.E. General Ke Kimyan, first deputy defense minister and chief of the CPA General Political Department; Prince Norodom Chakkrapong, vice chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers; ladies and gentlemen of the CPP Central Committee; and many other leading officials.

Furthermore, Their Excellency members of the SNC, namely Dit Munti, Hor Namhong, Im Chhunlim, Sin Sen, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, H.E. Khieu Samphan, and H.E. Ieng Muli; Their Excellencies ambassadors of the diplomatic missions of the various countries accredited to Cambodia; and representatives of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia were also present.

Chairman Hun Sen's Recent Activities Reported

Meets Japanese Minister

BK0505183492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] On 2 May in the provincial town of Kompong Cham, His Excellency Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, cordially held talks with Taku Yamasaki, Japan's construction minister, who led a delegation to visit the State of Cambodia.

During the talks, the two sides discussed the possibility of rebuilding Cambodia in preparation for the forthcoming international conference on rebuilding Cambodia. The talks were conducted in a cordial atmosphere and warm, mutual understanding. During the visit to Cambodia, the delegation of Japan's Construction Ministry visited the Chrouy Changva Bridge, the Phnom Penh port, and National Route 6A from Chrouy Changva to Roka Kaong.

Tours Kompong Cham Province

BK0505155292 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0403 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 5—Prime Minister Hun Sen made a three-day tour of Kompong Cham Province, 100 km northeast of Phnom Penh, from May 1-3. Hun Sen, who is also vice president of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], visited the districts of Prey Chhor, Tbong Khmum and Koh Sotin in the province and called on the local people, the invalids, the families of fallen combatants and Buddhist monks.

Speaking to the local people, Hun Sen informed them of efforts made by the CPP so as to end the 20 year-old war in the country through negotiations.

In Tbong Khmum District, the 47 year-old woman Pum Heng said that the CPP was the god as it helped save the Cambodian people from the killing of the polpotists.

The 72 year-old man Hien Hong expressed gratitude to the CPP and said he still followed its leadership as it had saved the people's lives since 1979.

While there, Prime Minister Hun Sen provided a sum of money to the Buddhist monks to build temples, Buddist schools and donated a quantity of necessary utensils to the invalids and the families of fallen combatants in a number of localities in the province.

Opens National Development Institute

BK0605040792 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 5 May 92

[Summary] "The Cambodia Development Training and Research Institute [CDTRI] was inaugurated on the afternoon of 4 May in the presence of His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia [SOC] Council of Ministers, ministers, deputy ministers, and representatives of the diplomatic corps and international organizations accredited to Cambodia." This CDTRI was founded by the CPP and SOC in cooperation with CDRI [Cambodia Development and Research Institute] and other international organizations. According to the CDRI director, the establishment of the CDTRI was to help train Cambodian cadres and personnel and contribute to the development of Cambodia's national economy. In this context, many seminars and English language courses have been organized by CDTRI.

H.E. Hun Sen thanked CDRI and other international organizations for helping to reopen the CDTRI which constitutes an important asset for the development of Cambodia.

Sar Kheng Briefs Diplomats on Party Meeting

BK0505133692 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] On the afternoon of 4 May at the Chamka Mon State Palace, His Excellency [H.E.] Sar Kheng, standing member of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and interior minister, disseminated the results of the CPP Central Committee's 15th plenum among various diplomats accredited to Cambodia and representatives of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia assigned to Cambodia.

After listening to Sar Kheng, diplomats aired their views by expressing satisfaction with the openness of the CPP in the search for genuine peace for the Cambodian people. This dissemination was concluded after H.E. Sar Kheng answered in detail questions by various diplomats accredited to Cambodia.

Heng Samrin Inaugurates Buddhist School

BK0305115992 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 May 92

[Summary from poor reception] "On the afternoon of 2 May 1992 at the Vat Langka Monastery [in central Phnom Penh], a ceremony was held to inaugurate a Buddhist school under the lofty chairmanship of His Excellency [H.E.] Heng Samrin, honorary chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State. Also attending were H.E. Sim Ka, standing member of the CPP Central Committee and chairman of the Phnom Penh municipal party committee and people's committee; and Venerable Um Sim, vice chairman of the Phnom Penh's front committee and head of the Phnom Penh clergy."

On this ocassion, the chief of Vat Langka Monastery committee read a report reviewing the history of the monastery and its restoration. He also praised the policy of the State of Cambodia's Government in restoring Buddhism as the state religion.

Afterward, H.E. Heng Samrin made a speech.

[Begin Heng Samrin recording] "On behalf of the State of Cambodia's Government and party and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense [KUFNCD], and in my own name, I would like to sincerely praise the clergy, the monastery committee, and disciples of Vat Langka Monastery for their concern about the fate and future of Buddhism and their kind moral and material support for building the Buddhist school in the monastery, which will greatly benefit our Cambodian children."

Reviewing the history of Buddhism in our country, we see that Buddhism has never ceased to exist; it only declined in accordance with the country's situation. "It is regretable that Buddhism disappeared in Cambodia between 1975-1978 under a reactionary regime which the people hated." Since 1979, the CPP, the State of Cambodia's Government, and the KUFNCD have restored religious practices in the country and for 13 years they have made efforts to revive and support Buddhism. "To this day, 2,902 out of 3,369 monasteries have been restored nationwide."

The Ministry for Religious Affairs has been set up and efforts have been made to restore the Buddhist Institute. Books have been reprinted. Research on religion, civilization, culture, the arts, and literature—sources of the Cambodian nation's soul and pride—is being conducted by the CPP, the State of Cambodia Government and the KUFNCD. There are now 108 primary Buddhist schools. "On 7 and 8 May, 200 Pali language students will sit for an examination at the Unalaom Monastery before going on to further their studies."

Monasteries are places of worship, learning, and meditation. They are also hospitals and meeting places of all types of people, regardless of their class. This is why monasteries have become the symbol of hope and are popular places for the propagation of national culture and ethics. They are the core of peace. The most important thing for Buddhist followers is to know and understand the essence of Buddha's teachings. The only way to achieve this is through study. The more we know, the better.

In the future, attention should be paid to creating conditions for our Cambodian children to study Buddhism and enter monkhood in order to sustain Buddhism and to increase knowledge. "This is also to eliminate violence, malevolence, and hostility." Buddhist disciples should continue to practice this and make it a fine tradition.

Finally, I would like to wish the clergy, the monastery committee, Buddhist diciples of Vat Langka Monastery, and everyone the five Buddhist blessings. [end recording]

The ceremony was completed after H.E. Heng Samrin cut the ribbon to officially open the school.

Comprehensive Administrative Role Urged for SNC

BK0605031692 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 May 92

["Article": "Only When the Supreme National Council Plays its Comprehensive Administrative Role During the Transitional Period Can Peace and Happiness Prevail in Cambodia"]

[Text] The 23 October 1991 Paris agreement clearly defines that the Supreme National Council [SNC] and the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] are two administrative bodies in Cambodia during the transitional period. Particularly, none other but the SNC is the sole legitimate source of power in Cambodia. The SNC and the UNTAC have the right and power to consult with each other and discuss ways to administer state affairs and implement the Paris agreement comprehensively.

After signing the Paris agreement, the Cambodian people, Cambodian national resistance forces, and the overwhelming majority number of peace- and justice-loving countries across the world have hoped that the SNC and UNTAC will fully cooperate in managing the state affairs and implementing the Paris agreement correctly. They want Cambodia to quickly achieve peace, happiness, and independence, and to be free from foreign aggressors. But, there are bad elements who want to reduce the role of the SNC and UNTAC, particularly the comprehensive role of the SNC, and upgrade the role of the regime installed at gunpoint by the Vietnamese aggressors to be in charge of state affairs.

This attempt runs totally against the Paris agreement. If this is the case, the Vietnamese war of aggression cannot be ended and there can be no national reconciliation nor four-party concord.

Therefore, only when the SNC plays a comprehensive role as the interim government being in charge of the humanitarian aid and the political, economic, and all other fields can the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia be put to an end; can there be national reconciliation and four-party concord; and can Cambodia enjoy peace, happiness, and independence. On the contrary, if the bad elements continue striving to enable the Vietnamese aggressor regime in Cambodia to manage state affairs as it wishes, the war will continue. This is because through this regime that they installed, the Vietnamese aggressors are still in control of all affairs in Cambodia.

The Cambodian national resistance forces and Cambodian people cannot accept this.

Journal Hails CPP, SOC Human Rights Promotion

BK0605120192 Phnom Penh PRACHEACHON in Cambodian 26 Apr 92 P 1

[Editorial: "Blossoming Human Rights in Cambodia"]

[Text] Following his birth, man started to establish his rights and despite the different circumstances, views, mores, customs, and traditions of each race, he has compiled a generally similar record of human rights. These are the rights to live a decent life, to enjoy food and clothing, and to have the freedoms of action, religion, expression, and especially the freedom to live in peace with independence, and as master of one's own country and one's own destiny. The law protects all these legitimate rights and forbids the exercise of human rights by any individual or group in violation against the rights of others.

In Cambodia, the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and the State of Cambodia [SOC] have accomplished a remarkable feat of historic significance, one that deserves praise and admiration. When we were each on the verge of the abyss, spending sleepless nights waiting for the eventual blow with a hoe to our heads that would put a definitive end to our existence, the CPP and SOC were the only ones who came to quash that danger and restore to us, the Cambodian people, our rights as free men. The danger of famine, the Reaper No.2 left behind by the Pol Pot regime in 1979, then threatened our very existence, but again we managed to overcome it. Human rights at that time were the rights to survive and have something to eat. They were the first indispensable and fundamental rights, vital rights that anyone would wholeheartedly and gratefully value.

Freedom to wear what clothes one likes, to go wherever one wishes, to believe in whatever religion one wants, to get free education and medical care, and the freedom to express one's opinions, as well as others have been restored. They have also developed steadily after each of us have strenthened and improved until this point, as we try to build a lasting peace for Cambodia.

Cambodians are Buddhist. We just can never behave in the same way as the few who have refused to work for the salvation of the nation and people against the danger of genocide, those who only pretend to shed crocodile tears now.

The CPP, SOC, and Cambodian people hail the special covenant on human rights of which we are very proud since we have always been the cofounders of their infrastructure and have been toiling for the promotion of genuine human rights.

Akashi Comments on UNTAC Deployment

BK0605070892 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0414 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 6—The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia's [UNTAC] deployment to peacekeeping forces must be stepped up if the operation's second phase is to begin on schedule June 1, AFP quoted the special U.N. envoy for Cambodia as saying Monday.

The envoy, Yasushi Akashi, said that about 4,000 of the troops already have been deployed and that troops originally due to travel to Cambodia by ship would be airlifted there instead to increase to 15,600 by early June the number of soldiers monitoring the cease-fire and the demobilization and billeting of troops.

"Although there are certain delays in the deployment of both military and civilian elements, we are confident that we can still meet the deadline of democratic elections in April or early May next year," Akashi said.

With the near-complete deployment of UNTAC units in June "we can verify the cease-fire, start cantonment and demobilization of up to 70 percent of troops" with Cambodian factions, totalling some 200,000 men, Akashi added.

Initially expected to be carried out at 52 sites, the cantonment now is due to take place at 55 locations which have been set out during negotiations with the parties concerned.

The U.N. Budget Committee is due to meet this week to determine the cost of the operation for a six-month period. While originally expected to cost a total 1.9 billion dollars, the complete UNTAC budget estimated through May 1993 has been revised downward slightly to 1.8 billion dollars, not including the cost of the repatriation and resettling of Cambodian refugees in Thailand.

This humanitarian side of the operation, expected to conclude on schedule in late December, will carry a price tag of some 593 million dollars, funded with voluntary contributions from U.N. member states," [quotation marks as received] Akashi said.

With regard to the Khmer Rouge, the Japanese diplomat said promises made April 20 after a visit to Cambodia by Secretary Butrus Butrus Ghali "improve the situation, but we are not fully satisfied."

The Khmer Rouge has expressed willingness to authorize UNTAC members to enter five zones under their control, but "what we need is an unconditional access to any point at any time," Akashi said.

After his visit to Cambodia, Butrus Ghali prepared a report on UNTAC which he is preparing to deliver to the

Security Council in the coming days, while budgetary issues will be tackled in another report which also will be submitted to the council soon, Akashi said.

In addition to the demobilization and cantonment of forces, clearing the country of mines and repatriating refugees, UNTAC is due to organnize a complete electoral process including voter registry—estimated at 4.3 million people—the installation of polling stations in 21 provinces, and then the monitoring of campaigning and elections.

UNHCR Forced To Scale Down Repatriation

BK0605062092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Faced with a shortage of arable land and logistical problems inside Cambodia, the UN High Commissioner for refugees [UNHCR] has been forced to scale down the repatriation of displaced Cambodians, an informed source said yesterday.

The source said the number of Cambodian people repatriated to the country last month was only 5,705, well below the targetted figure of 10,000 in one month. The UNHCR was now finding it difficult to locate enough land to distribute to the returnees in the areas they have chosen.

The source added that some routes needed for the repatriation are strewn with land mines, such as Highway 6 leading to Siem Reap, and some bridges on the way are still in poor condition.

Meanwhile, Thai Foreign Ministry Spokesman Salthip Krairik said late last week that the repatriation program would be raised in a meeting of Cambodia's Supreme National Council led by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the UNHCR in Tokyo in June.

Phnom Penh Calls for Nine Border Checkpoints

BK0505114492 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] In the second week of April, the Coordination Committee of the State of Cambodia's Defense Ministry expressed its stance on the border control operation of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia.

The task of checkpoints is to control the end of foreign military aid and the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cambodia and their nonreturn. There should be a clear distinction between what is banned and ordinary cross-border movements of citizens, whether civilian or military. (?The text) paid attention to people's travels to earn their living and the establishment of a balance between the western and eastern border.

The fourth and final point of the State of Cambodia's stance proposes setting up nine checkpoints along the western border adjoining Thailand, including the end of Route 56, (Chi Sok) and (Samlot) passes, Sala Krau, Phnum Malai, Phnum Chhat, Chan Kraham, Anlung Mean, and Pass 1003 at the border junction of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear Provinces.

Khmer Rouge Captures 3 Kompong Thom Villages

BK0605071692 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Phnom Penh, May 6 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge [KR] guerrillas have captured three villages in Kompong Thom Province to consolidate their lines of communications before U.N. peacekeepers deploy, a senior U.N. military source said Wednesday.

About 200 guerrillas from the 802nd KR Division took over the villages late last week after driving out Phnom Penh government troops with artillery fire, the source said.

He described the attack as one of the most serious cease-fire violations since the October peace accord.

The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] is seeking to resolve the situation through negotiations, UNTAC spokesman Jamel Ben Yahmed said.

"Although the situation is serious, UNTAC views that the Paris peace agreement is still in place," he said.

The U.N. source said the attacks, about 30 kilometers (19 miles) northeast of the provincial seat Kompong Thom, gave the KR control of a section of the Sen River valley used as a supply and communication route between KR units in northern and southern Cambodia.

"The KR started shelling and the (Phnom Penh) army retreated, so there weren't many casualties," he said, without providing figures.

Kompong Thom has been the scene of repeated clashes between Phnom Penh troops and KR guerrillas since late January, as the two factions attempt to cut each other's supply lines. The KR last month seized and mined a section of a major highway, Route 12, that remains impassable.

The latest flare-up comes as UNTAC debates whether to move from the prepatory to the substantive phase of the peace plan, during which U.N. peacekeepers are to oversee demobilization of 70 percent of the rival armies and put the remainder in cantonments.

"I think it's the last battle," the U.N. source said. "They're trying to expand their position because they know UNTAC will deploy and they won't be able to move."

UNTAC will press the KR during negotiations to pull back to positions they held in January, he said.

Three companies of Indonesian U.N. troops posted in Kompong Thom are avoiding the combat zone until a cease-fire is agreed by the two sides.

"It is essential for us that UNTAC in no way becomes a faction," said Ben Yahmed, explaining UNTAC's cautious policy.

Apart from Kompong Thom, few major clashes have been reported since the peace treaty.

Indonesia

Burmese Crisis Assumes 'International Dimension'

BK0505183292 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia says the crisis in Burma is that country's internal affairs. However, developments have indicated that the matter is increasingly assuming an international dimension and tends to have negative impacts on peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

In a letter of reply to the Aceh chapter of the Indonesian Ulemas Council, Malikus Suamin, acting director for Asia-Pacific affairs of the Department of Foreign Affairs, said on behalf of the minister that Indonesia and the other ASEAN countries were following the situation in Burma with deep concern and hoped that the crisis in that country would be immediately overcome. The deep concern follows the growing influx of ethnic Rohingya refugees into Bangladesh, which has caused difficulties to this country.

In the letter to the minister of foreign affairs, the Aceh chapter of the Indonesian Ulemas Council hoped that the Indonesian Government would adopt a more resolute stand on the violation by the Burmese military regime of the human rights of the Muslims.

First Contingent of Forces Returns From Kuwait

BK0405123092 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0810 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Indonesian Garuda XI-I contingent sent to reinforce the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) has completed its 12-month mission and returned to Indonesia, the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) Information Centre said here on Sunday.

The Armed Forces Information Centre quoted Chief of the ABRI General Staff Affairs Vice Admiral Sudibyo Raharjo as saying that the Indonesian peace contingent had been successful in carrying out its mission. He received Garuda XI-I contingent at the armed forces headquarters in Cilangkap here on Sunday.

Sudibyo explained, obstacles and shortage faced by the Indonesian peace force during their posting there did not reduce their spirit and mentality.

Instead, the constraints they faced even serve as a driving force for them to prove their ability in making achievements and building good image for the ABRI in the world eye, he added.

Sudibyo said the request by the United Nations that ABRI should continue to send contingents for the UN peace forces was proof of the Indonesian Armed Forces achievement.

The seven-member contingent, which was led by Lieutenant Colonel A. Inkiriwang, took part in the UNIKOM mission from April 24, 1991 to April 27, 1992.

Minister Opens Country's First Islamic Bank

BK0205062292 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0151 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 2 (ANTARA)—Indonesia launched the operation of the first ever bank based on Islamic law, Bank Mualamat Indonesia, here on Friday. Finance Minister Sumarlin officially marked the opening of the bank in a ceremony attended by Central Bank Governor Adrianus Mooy.

The bank, which is located on Jalan Sudirman in Central Jakarta, started with a Rp. [Rupiah] 100 billion (U.S. $50 million) capital.

In its operations, the bank will supply credits upon a profit-sharing scheme in which recipients must set aside part of their profit for the bank which is not allowed to exceed that of the recipients.

The bank is set to get an equity capital of Rp. 500 billion (U.S. $250 million) and in an effort to increase the bank's fund, President Suharto recently asked would-be pilgrims to buy the bank shares minimally 10 at a nominal price of Rp. 1,000 (U.S. $0.5) each.

Police Halt Moslem Group Seminar on Human Rights

BK0405044392 Hong Kong AFP in English 0414 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] Jakarta, May 4 (AFP)—Police halted a seminar on human rights organized by the All-Indonesia Moslem Intellectual Association (ICMI) at the weekend, saying it was unauthorised, the daily JAKARTA POST said Monday.

Police told seminar chairman Andrinof Chaniago that the seminar Saturday did not have the necessary permission under Indonesia's Criminal Code and ordered him to disband it, the paper reported.

Chaniago said police cited Article 510 of the Code which states that a gathering must have police permission. Chaniago said he had not sought permits because it was a "routine, internal" seminar.

He added there had been no problem with three other seminars held by the association.

The seminar, which attracted about 60 people, had planned five speakers, including a member of the Group of 50 dissident organisation Chris Siner Key Timu.

The Group of 50 is a loose organisation linking many retired generals and ministers who served under Suharto but who became critical of his policies in the early 1980s.

Jakarta has banned any mass gatherings from May 3 to June 16 ahead of the June 9 parliamentary elections. The official campaign period runs from from May 10 to June 3.

Laos

Gratis Rice Aid From Japan Granted

BK0105134692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] A ceremony was held at the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Vientiane today to mark the signing and exchange of documents on gratis aid in the form of food given to Laos by the Japanese Government. Signing for the Lao side was Souban Salitthilat, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and signing for the Japanese side was Shigemi Ando, Japanese ambassador to Laos. The signing ceremony was held in the presence of cadres concerned from the Foreign Affairs Ministry and the Japanese Embassy.

The gratis aid, amounting to 200 million yen, has been given to Laos by the Japanese Government in accordance with the [word indistinct] plan for 1991. This amount of money will be used to buy rice for the multiethnic people in various localities throughout the country, who have suffered from severe natural disasters during the past year.

Sources of the Japanese Embassy further reported that the assistance plan will be completed in the next four months or so. They said a Japanese company itself will engage in buying and shipping some 5,000 metric tons of rice from Thailand to the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

154 Refugees Return Home From Thailand

BK0605064892 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Recently, more than 150 Lao refugees in Thailand were voluntarily repatriated to their homeland through the border checkpoints of Laos' Savannakhet Province and Thailand's Mukdahan Province.

This was the sixth in a series of voluntary repatriation of refugees from the Ban Na Pho refugee center, Phanat Nikom District, [Chon Buri Province], this year. The recent repatriation involved a total of 154 Lao refugees from 49 families. Of this, 27 families voluntarily returned to their native towns, while 22 families decided to resettle in a new development zone under the United Nations' assistance project for refugees.

A total of 596 refugees have returned to Laos so far this year. Last year, seven batches of Lao refugees were repatriated through Savannakhet Province—four from Thailand, and three from China.

Foreign Aid for Communications Work Discussed

BK2804114792 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 28 Apr 92

[Text] Vientiane, April 28 (KPL)—Minister of Communications, Transport, Post, and Construction Bouathong, in his recent interview to the local mass media, has said that foreign assistance represents a stimulus for a rapid communications development in the country.

The minister said the past and current assistance worth up to 255 million krona—equivalent to U.S. $42.5 million—from the Swedish Government had been used in construction and improvement of Road [No.] 13 south, a 192-km section from Vientiane to Thabok and from Thabok to Pak Kading, and in construction of a training school and a pilot vehicle maintenance workshop.

In addition, he said the government had received grant aid from the UNDP [UN Development Program] for Sayaboury-Paklai road construction, some loans from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank for construction of the National Highway No. 13, and grant aid from the Australian Government for construction of the Friendship Mekong Bridge between Laos-Australia-Thailand.

Bouathong also said that all the assistance was very significant for the country, adding that once Road [No.] 13 over 1,000-km long has been completed, it would be greatly helpful to national socioeconomic development as a whole.

Khamtai Siphandon Meets Xieng Khouang Officials

BK0505183092 Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)—Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon, when visiting Xieng Khouang Province recently, had talks with the provincial administrative committee and military officers.

In his talks, the prime minister underlined efforts to promote agricultural and forestry production and to preserve water sources and environment. He also spoke of the activities in arranging permanent settlement and fixed farming for mountain people.

This was to restrict and eventually put an end to slash and burn method of agricultural production. Xieng Khouang is an area most suitable for cattle raising. The prime minister, therefore, stressed on livestock development in the locality, asking the local authorities to pay more attention to supporting the local people in cattle raising.

Instruction Issued on Enterprise Registration

BK0105124492 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] In early April, Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister of economy, planning, and finance, issued an instruction to all ministries concerned, provincial, and city municipal governors on the problem of registering enterprises of business units throughout the country. The instruction recalls the regulations on enterprises as put forth by the minister of economy, planning, and finance on 1 July 1989. The regulations stipulate that before operating businesses in any professional branch—such as production, transportation, construction, trading, and other services—all state-owned, collective, and state-private business production units must first get an approval for an establishment or business operation from the branches concerned, and then register their businesses with the taxation organizations at places where their business enterprises are located.

It is clearly stated in Article 19 of the regulations No. 309 dated 1 July 1989 on the enterprises that the issuance of enterprise registration and the collection of registration fees are to be implemented on a yearly basis in accordance with the budget requirements. For an enterprise which wants to proceed with its old business in an old branch of professional service in subsequent years, it is required to renew its registration and pay the fees at the taxation organization within the first quarter of each year.

As for the various services concerned, in addition to having the duty of issuing licenses for the establishment of business operations for newly set up enterprises, they maintain a direct role in controlling and inspecting markets during the period in which the enterprises undertake their businesses.

The Economy, Planning, and Finance Ministry points out that last year, as well as the current year of 1992, the taxation organizations of many provinces, including that of Vientiane Municipality, met with difficulties in carrying out the process to renew the registration for the enterprises, thus seriously affecting and causing delay in the collection of revenues for the state budget. As a result, the revenue collection plan for the annual budget was not successfully fulfilled. This is because the branches concerned have failed to renew the registration of the enterprises at the taxation service after its expiration. Such practice runs counter to Article 19 of the regulations on the registration of enterprises.

Therefore, to promptly settle the aforesaid problem, the Economy, Planning, and Finance Ministry hereby suggests that various ministries, taxation organizations, and all other branches concerned coordinate and cooperate even more closely with each other in performing the work so that the original registration, as well as the renewal of registration, can be handled smoothly. On a certain occasion, if the branches concerned need to cross-examine their already approved licenses for the establishment or business operations of their enterprises, they can also do so. But such examinations must not cause delays in the renewal of the registration, and must not affect the collection of revenues of the state budget. If any branch or organization concerned sees that the enterprises under its control fail to correctly carry out their business in accordance with the contents of the licenses, the branch or organization has the right to make an investigation. But if the enterprises refuse to allow investigatation into the case, the branch or organization can then ask for cooperation from the financial authorities to take measures by revoking their licenses and fining them.

Women's Union Head Views Foreign Aid for Women

BK0505141992 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Vientiane, May 5 (KPL)—President of the Lao Women's Union Mrs. Onchan Thammavong recently had a discussion here with the representatives of the Swedish Embassy and the Quakers in Laos on operation of rural women development in the country.

The discussion focused on use of the aid which SIDA [Swedish International Development Authority] will provide to Laos for 1992 for rural women development.

A report by the women's union indicates that in the past three years it received a total aid of over 139 million kip from international organisations and missions, among others, UNICEF, CIDSE [International Cooperation for Development and Economic Solidarity], JVC [Japan International Volunteer Center], Australian Embassy, Save the Children Fund (UK). The aid involving both funds and materials was given to the women's union chapter of Khammouane Province for rural women development in the province.

The development activities include technical and vocational training courses for women and training of extension workers and village development volunteers, in addition to building rainwater jars, drilling artesian wells, installing rice mills, repairing schools, setting up rice and cattle banks, gardening, and rearing fish in rice fields.

The membership of the women's union in Khammouane Province now is 20,033.

Another report from Houa Phan Province has indicated that UNICEF's aid in 1991 for women development in Siangdi area, Samtai District, Houa Phan Province, had proved successful.

The aid was a 1-million kip fund which was used to buy cattle for raising and a rice mill.

The report also said that women in Samtai District this year earned more than 4 million kip from selling their woven cloth.

Philippines

Kuwait Grants Infrastructure Loan

HK0605023192 Quezon City MALAYA in English 6 May 92 p 9

[Text] Acting Finance Secretary Ma. Cecilia G. Soriano and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development deputy director general Abdulwahab Al-Bader yesterday signed a 1.9 million Kuwaiti dinar supplementary loan for the Mindanao Roads Improvement Project. The project covers the reconstruction of the Molave-Oroquieta road and the Pagadian-Tukuran road, two vital road links in northwest Mindanao.

The additional resources being provided for the project is in response to the government's request for the fund to cover up to 90 percent of total project costs in view of increases in construction costs following the Gulf crisis in 1991. The supplementary loan brings the total loan amount for this project to 4.9 million Kuwaiti dinar.

It should be noted that the supplementary loan has the same concessional terms as the original loan which include a repayment period of 18 years inclusive of a 2-1/2 year grace period with interest at 4-1/2 percent per annum.

Government Lifts Ban on Workers Going to Libya

HK0505030792 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration [POEA] has lifted the temporary suspension on the export of Filipino workers to Libya following satisfactory reports from the Philippine Embassy in Tripoli. According to the POEA, it is safe for Filipino workers to enter and leave Libya using the various alternative routes.

Filipino workers wishing to go to Libya will be allowed to do so providing that they have a confirmed flight to any of the different transit points, such as Malta, Cairo, and Tunis, and that their would-be employers can assure their safety.

Communist Rebels Admit Killing Cagayan Candidate

HK0605054092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 6 May 92 p 1

[By Juliet Labog and Bert Basa]

[Text] The New People's Army [NPA] has taken responsibility for the killing of Lakas-NUCD [Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats] congressional candidate Leonardo Mamba late last month "for his crimes against the people."

In a letter sent to the INQUIRER, Noli Libertad of the NPA's Lt. Crispin Tagamolila Command said communist guerillas "meted out the highest penalty" against Mamba after they allegedly found him guilty of landgrabbing, political terrorism, cheating, salvaging, destructive logging, warlordism and graft and corruption in Cagayan and Kalinga-Apayao from 1988 to 1992.

In Pampanga, police are looking into the possibility that the killing of Manuel Chu, 52, a candidate for mayor in Bacolor, was actually an NPA execution.

Chu was shot at close range by two men while he was dancing at a ball in Barangay Cabalantian shortly after midnight on Monday.

Pampanga PNP [Philippine National Police] chief, Superintendent Rodrigo Baloyo, said Chu had received death threats for refusing to pay NPA taxes. But politics and business rivalry have not been ruled out as motives for the Chu Killing, Baloyo added.

Domingo Cabrera, a councillor on Chu's slate, said that Chu's wife, Veronica, has decided to run in place of her husband. There are nine contenders for the Bacolor mayoral post.

The NPA also issued a warning to political warlords in Cagayan Valley "to heed our call and respect the will of the people."

"Unlike the Comelec and the AFF-PNP [Armed Forces of the Philippines]... who are only good in words, we are serious in our drive to dismantle the private armies," Libertad said, threatening to "destroy" warlords, their private armies and even Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units (CAFGUS) in the Cagayan Valley.

Mamba was killed last April 25 by armed men in fatigues after holding him and 70 other Lakas-NUCD candidates and supporters hostage. The other hostages were later released unhurt.

Libertad accused Mamba of personally leading offensives of the Civilian Home Defense Forces (now CAFGU) against communist guerillas in the 1980s, dismantling people's organizations and punishing those who supported the "revolutionary cause."

He said Mamba also put up strategic hamlets and imposed population control measures in Tuto town.

Authorities have blamed the NPA for at least four of the 32 political killings in the country so far this year.

Last Saturday, six gunmen shot dead re-electionist Mayor Wilson Antonio during a campaign rally in San Remigio, Antique. Also killed were Antonio's son and a councilor. Police said they suspected the killers were henchmen of Antonio's political rival or communist guerillas operating in Antique.

Last April 24, suspected communist gunmen killed a mayoral candidate of the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Struggle of Filipino Democrats], in Oas, Albay. Dr. Manuel Rebueno was attending a wedding reception when he was gunned down by armed men who introduced themselves as NPAs.

The wave of political violence attributed to the communist rebels came as the NPA in Southern Luzon said they will not resort to widespread violence and ballot-snatching in the May 11 elections.

NPA Melito Glor Command spokesman Gregorio Rosal said that although elections do not address the real issues affecting the people, the communist guerillas were not advocating a boycott of the May polls.

Cagayan Politicians Pledge Peaceful, Clean Polls

HK0605030592 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 6 May 92 p 6

[By Cynthia De Leon]

[Text] Cagayan de Oro—Congressional and mayoral candidates Monday publicly pledged to keep the May 11 elections "clean, honest, orderly, and peaceful."

In a "Peace Covenant" they signed after the flag ceremony in Camp Alagar, the candidates pledged not to "engage in vote-buying," "resort to dirty tricks, stealth, deceit... or any form of fraudulent and dishonest means."

"We denounce and renounce violence and hereby commit ourselves to refrain from resorting to the same before or after the elections," the covenant said.

They pledged before Comelec [Commission on Elections] Regional Director Gaga Mauna to "accept and sportingly recognize whoever will be declared winner... by the Comelec."

The signing was witnessed by PNP [Philippine National Police] Regional Director Honesto Bumanglag, 4ID [expansion unknown] chief Brig. Gen. Quintin Alcudia, Regional Director Jesus Apepe of the Philippine Information Agency, and Local Government Regional Director Felipe Montesa.

In another development, Bishop Rey Monsanto, member of the VOTE CARE coordinating board, said all parishes of the city began yesterday a 9-day fast for clean elections.

He said the parishes will also hold a 3-day prayer vigil starting May 8.

A nationwide project of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines' national social action office, VOTE CARE stands for Voters' Organization, Training and Education for Clean, Authentic, and Responsible Elections.

Bumanglag said the regional peace and order condition is "manageable," but authorities are closely watching developments in Bukidnon, Agusan del Norte, and Surigao del Norte, especially Dinagat Island.

Bumanglag cited intelligence reports on a planned "big convention" of the Philippine Benevolent Missionaries Association (PBMA) during the election period.

"The convention may cause many flying voters," Bumanglag said but gave assurance that PNP troops on standby in Surigao City can, in case of trouble, be immediately transported to Dinagat.

Several members of the Ecleo family which founded the PBMA are now standing for various positions in Surigao.

Election Body Accredits Six Political Parties

HK0405050092 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 May 92 pp 1, 7

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] ruled yesterday that the Liberal Party-PDP Laban coalition, the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [Filipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength], and the Nationalist People's Coalition [NPC] are the three major political groups entitled to a copy of certificates of canvass.

In a resolution, the commission also directed the LP-PDP Laban to give a duplicate of its copy to the Nacionalista Party, the LDP to Lakas-NUCD [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue's Strength National Union of Christian Democrats], and the NPC to the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan-Millora wing.

The People's Reform Party of Miriam Defensor-Santiago was the only party that failed to make it to the circle of six.

Comelec officials said the certificate of canvass was important because it will be used as reference in case of disputes over the count.

All six accredited political groups shall also be entitled to one principal watcher per precinct in the May 11 elections.

The principal poll watchers have priority over other watchers to stay inside precincts and monitor the balloting.

The six political groups were ranked on the basis of party history and showing in previous elections; number of incumbent officials belonging to the party; political organization; and ability to field a complete slate from the presidency to the municipal level.

The commission assigned 25 points for each criterion.

The LP-PDP Laban Koalisyong Pambansa [Filipino Democratic Party] led by Jovito Salonga and Aquilino Pimentel Jr. emerged the top political group with 57.87 points. It also scored well in organization, having the most number of political chapters in the municipal level.

The LDP, the majority party led by Ramon V. Mitra and Marcelo Fernan, came in second with 55.48 points.

LDP, which has a complete senatorial slate and the most number of incumbents, earned its points mostly from organization and number of candidates.

The NPC led by Eduardo Cojuangco and Joseph Estrada came third with 44.16 points. The opposition coalition scored well in the candidates criterion.

The NP [Nacionalista Party], the oldest political party in the country, earned a perfect score in party history but fared miserably in the three other categories and was relegated to fourth place with 43.25 points.

The party which has fickle Salvador H. Laurel for president and Eva Estrada-Kalaw for vice president has to get a copy of the certificate of canvass from the LP.

The administration-backed Lakas-NUCD with the team of Fidel V. Ramos and Emilio Osmena III placed fifth with 36 points.

The party has to ask for a duplicate from its archrival, LDP.

The KBL-Millora wing spearheaded by Imelda Marcos and Vicente Magsaysa was sixth with 14.91 points. It has to get a duplicate from NPC to which the other KBL [New Society Movement] factions belonged.

Despite the PRP's failure to land in the top six political parties, Santiago and Ramon Magsaysay Jr. would still be allowed poll watchers.

But their watchers would not have priority to stay inside polling precincts, and would not get to sign the certificates of canvass.

Raul Dai a senatorial candidate and LP secretary general, said the coalition was "gratified" with the resolution which in effect "declared (LP-PDP Laban) the No. 1 poliical group."

He said the resolution boosted the image of the coalition which has been dismissed as a poor fourth to its well-funded, better-organized rivals.

"The LP-PDP Laban coalition has always been humiliated as a poor man's party. But the Comelec has chosen to look at things objectively and recognize us as the No. 1 party," Daza said.

Places Quezon City Under its Control

HK0605012092 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] will put Quezon City under its control. Comelec Commissioner Haydee Yorac said Brigadier General Thelmo Cunanan, chief of the National Capital Region Defense Command, has been directed personally to oversee the deployment of security personnel at Quezon City Hall to prevent any cheating and coercion.

The Comelec has also ordered Interior and Local Government Secretary Cesar Sarino not to interfere in the reshuffle of police officials which has been made in connection with the election. Yorac said Sarino has countermanded a Comelec decision to reshuffle the police force after the killing of Ternate Mayor Octavio Velasco.

Police Chief Accuses Communists of Poll Violence

HK0505053892 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA], not politicians, is responsible for the recent spate of political violence. This was the statement made by General Gerardo Flores, Philippine National Police [PNP] chief of operations, in response to the increasing number of election-related killings.

Based on recent reports, a total of 31 people have been killed in election-related violence, a tolerable [as heard] number when compared to the number of political candidates running in the polls.

Flores added that the CPP-NPA was responsible for the death of Antique Mayor Wilson after the mayor refused to pay the rebel's campaign fees. In light of this, Flores warned all political candidates to coordinate with the local units of the PNP before they campaign, especially in communist-controlled areas.

Religious Sect Endorses Cojuangco, Estrada

HK0405030292 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 4 May 92

[Text] The Church of Christ [INC] has formally endorsed the candidacy of former Ambassador Eduardo Danding Cojuangco Jr. The sect has also endorsed vice-presidential candidate Joseph Estrada and eight of the Nationalist People's Coalition senatorial candidates.

From the Struggle of Filipino Democrats, the INC endorsed 11 senatorial candidates. It has also endorsed two senatorial candidates from the Epifanio de los Santos Avenue's Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats and one senatorial candidate from the Nacionalista Party and the Liberal Party-Filipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength.

The announcement was made by Bishop Eranio Manalo, executive minister of the INC.

At the same time, the INC has also announced the names of the local candidates it will endorse within Metro Manila. In Manila, the INC is endorsing Alfredo Lim; in Pasay, Pablo Cuneta; in Makati, Jejomar Binay; and in Caloocan, Macario Asistio. The INC is still studying who to support in Quezon City.

Foreign Debt Increases to $29.95 Billion in 1991

HK0405033492 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 4 May 92 p 8

[By Veronica E. Vargas]

[Text] The country's total foreign loan obligations shot up by over $1 billion to $29.956 billion last year as compared to the 1990 level, latest data released by the Central Bank showed.

Like in previous years, government borrowings were bigger than those incurred by the private sector, although the actual foreign debt figure was slightly lower than the Department of Finance projection of $30.1 billion for the same period.

Some $18.453 billion of the total obligations was incurred by the public sector, which included government-owned and -controlled corporations, while state banks, led by the Central Bank, borrowed about $5.66 billion, comprising a big chunk of the entire Philippine debts.

On the other hand, private sector borrowings reached about $5 billion, almost approximating the 1990 level.

Central Bank officials said despite the continued upswing in foreign debts, both the government and private firms availed themselves mostly of medium- and long-term loans, marking a major shift from the more traditional short-term borrowings.

The officials pointed out that this shift will help ease the pressure on foreign currency outflows, since the loans have an average payment period of five to 10 years.

In 1991, short-term borrowings accounted for $4.827 billion or 16 percent of the country's total foreign debt. The remaining $25 billion was composed of medium- and long-term loans.

Rescheduling agreements with foreign commercial creditor banks partly allowed the shift to long-term and concessional loans, the officials noted. This has resulted in lower foreign currency outflows and allowed the country to post a balance of payments (BOP) surplus starting in 1991. As of end-January this year, the BOP position registered a surplus of $248 million from end-1991's $1.4-billion surplus, a turnaround from the $185-million deficit recorded in 1990.

Thailand

Relations To Be Established With Two Republics

BK0605093892 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 6 May 92

[Excerpt] Thailand has moved to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level with the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Ukraine—two former Soviet Union states.

The Prime Minister's Office today issued two announcements to the effect signed by Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun referring to the desire to promote friendly relations, as well as mutual beneficial ties between the Kingdom of Thailand and the two republics.

Diplomatic relations, the announcement said, will be established at the level of embassy as of 6 May 1992, and exchanges of diplomatic representatives at ambassadorial level would be made. [passage omitted]

Reportage on Suchinda Premiership, Chamlong Fast

Daily Urges Suchinda To Step Down

BK0605013592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 May 92 p 1

["Page One Comment:" "For Thailand's Sake There Is No Choice: Suchinda Must Step Down"]

[Text] Gen Suchinda Khraprayun has wasted a whole month in trying to win public acceptance for his controversial premiership.

The hunger strike by Palang Tham party leader Maj Gen Chamlong Simuang to force Suchinda's immediate resignation is simply the strongest symbol of the Thai nation's abhorrence of the scandalous way in which Suchinda came to power.

Suchinda has done nothing in his first month in office to convince us that he deserves a chance to run this country or implement the policies he will announce today. These policies include the ironic pledge to promote "freedom of the mass media to acquire factual information and to disseminate it in a timely fashion".

A quick look at news programs on any of the state-owned and military-controlled TV stations will show that this "freedom" is non-existent. All five TV stations have generally ignored Suchinda's critics.

Suchinda's lack of legitimacy is real and serious. Yet his refusal to recognize this shortcoming, plus his hard-line attitude and frequently disdainful remarks about his criticis, have only served to insult the public's intelligence and make his opponents more determined.

Chamlong now is only drinking water and eating nothing; he reckons that he may die within one week. Chalat Worachat, who resumed his protest fast yesterday, may die even sooner.

He is much weaker than Chamlong and doctors had advised him not to leave the hospital, where he was admitted for emergency treatment on May Day following a collapse from a fast that started April 7.

Suchinda can pretend to be unperturbed and gamble on the possibility that "nothing serious" will happen should either Chalat or Chamlong die.

But what if "something" serious does happen? Violence and bloodshed will be inevitable. Our nation will only lose.

Suchinda does have one viable option if he cannot face stepping down: he can dissolve the House and call a general election.

This will give him a chance to form a party of his own and contest on an equal footing with rivals like Chamlong and Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, leader of the New Aspiration Party.

True, another election would be expensive, but it's a price the Thai people may be willing to pay if it will end the confrontation which is forcing Suchinda and his opponents into an ominous stalemate.

More importantly, it would be a way of avoiding another armed takeover, which some impatient military leaders may be contemplating right now.

The firm and sustained opposition to Suchinda's premiership shows that more and more people are fed up with military intervention in politics.

The scheming among military leaders to install Suchinda against the popular will was so poorly disguised and disgusting that people are left with no other choice but to protest it.

The situation could explode any moment now. Suchinda must either resign or dissolve the House.

[Signed] THE NATION

Suchinda Refuses To Resign

BK0605003592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 92 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun insisted last night he will not resign under pressure from anti-government protests and a hunger strike led by Palang Tham Party leader Chamlong Simuang in front of Parliament.

"Except through Parliament, what other people do or what will happen to anyone will have no impact (on the Government)," Gen Suchinda said as the protesters outside Parliament swelled to 20,000 last night.

Gen Suchinda, talking to reporters at the Government's garden party to commemorate Coronation Day, dismissed suggestions the protest will lead to violence.

"I still don't see how this will develop into violence. I cannot see what will lead to that.

"If I am to resign under these conditions (the pressure) then there will be a prime minister resigning in our country every day. Then anybody will go on a hunger strike whenever he is unhappy with the Government," the Premier said.

Asked what he will do if Maj-Gen Chamlong dies from the hunger strike, Gen Suchinda shot back:

"What do you think? Should I resign or let Maj-Gen Chamlong die?

"I have said from the beginning: if the Government has to resign because somebody is fasting against it, then we may have to resign every day."

He said he will pay attention only to activities inside Parliament.

"Since Maj-Gen Chamlong is now a member of Parliament, he should speak out in Parliament."

He said he believes opposition to his Government will subside in a few days and he has already ordered the military and the police to avoid using violence against the protesters.

Asked again what he will do if Maj-Gen Chamlong dies, Gen Suchinda said:

"I don't know. I have nothing to do with it. I only know that I have the duty to deliver the policy statement tomorrow (today)."

He said he is not attaching more importance to Maj-Gen Chamlong than other people.

"I treat him equally as other people because he (Maj-Gen Chamlong) has nothing special more than others."

Gen Suchinda insisted his rise to power is not a perpetuation of the power of the National Peace-keeping Council.

Asked why he agreed to become prime minister if he does not want power, Gen Suchinda said:

"I've never wanted power. Do you think a prime minister has more power than the army commander-in-chief or the supreme commander?"

He said he assumed the premiership out of necessity.

Asked if the Government will take responsibility if violence occurs, Gen Suchinda replied:

"The persons who cause the violence must bear the responsibility."

He insisted he had no plan to declare a state of emergency or curfew to try to suppress the protest.

"There will be no such thing because it is not necessary."

Gen Suchinda and his Cabinet ministers yesteday accused opposition parties of not playing by the rules in their announced plan to boycott today's meeting of the Lower House.

Deputy Prime Ministers Narong Wongwan and Montri Phongphanit Adireksan and Deputy Interior Minister Suchat Tancharoen jointly said the Opposition should manoeuvre inside Parliament.

House Speaker Athit Urairat pleaded last night that as the parties agreed to run in the election under the present Constitution, they should undertake their political activities likewise.

Suchinda-Chamlong Confrontation Viewed

BK0605005992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 92 p 4

[Article: "A Matter of Life and Death" by Banyat Thatsaniyawet and Ampha Santimathanedon]

[Text] The Suchinda Khraprayun Administration has apparently reached a political dead-end. It now seems that the only way out is for the Government to back down.

The vow by Palang Tham Party (PDP) leader Chamlong Simuang to "fast to death" unless Gen Suchinda resigns, will determine the fate of the Government.

For the past one month after his rise to power, Gen Suchinda has met an unprecedentedly strong and persistent protest by pro-democracy parties opposed to his "undemocratic" appointment.

A group of military officers who pushed Gen Suchinda out of the armed forces to pave the way for their own promotions have pledged full support for the Government. But either because of their desire to "please the boss" or wrong intelligence reports, the officers appeared to have come to the conclusion that the on-going anti-government demonstration outside Parliament was masterminded by New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut because of his disappointment at not being made prime minister.

The conclusion, based on wrong intelligence reports, may cause the military to misread the political situation to the detriment of the country's stability. They may overlook the people's growing awareness of their political rights, and the opposition's strength inside and outside of Parliament.

The two recent massive demonstrations against Gen Suchinda—first by the four opposition parties at the Royal Plaza and then by students and pro-democracy groups at Sanam Luang—were quite unusual for the politically passive Bangkokians.

The large number of people who attended the two rallies were unlikely to be "organised masses" as some people in the Government might have tried to tell the public.

The demand made at the two rallies is loud and clear. Prime Minister Suchinda must resign.

The hunger strike by former MP Chalat Worachat, though not winning the support of all people, has provided the fuel that keeps the anti-Suchinda fire burning. This fire can quickly spread if something is thrown into it.

Maj-Gen Chamlong's decision to put his life on the line touched all the people who have actively fought for democracy. Even parties in the opposition bloc have not anticipated Maj-Gen Chamlong's latest move.

The PDP leader told the Sanam Luang crowd at the end of Monday's rally that today's demonstration in front of Parliament would be crucial for the country's democracy. Whether democracy will win or Gen Suchinda will resign depends on the people's support for the pro-democracy movements at today's rally.

He said Gen Suchinda's statement that he had to break his promise for the sake of the country had caused irreparable damage to public morals.

He said he'd rather die than break his word.

Maj-Gen Chamlong's strong determination has stirred public sympathy although many believe that what he is asking in return may not be worth his life. Many believe, however, that no one will allow Maj-Gen Chamlong to die without doing anything to save his life.

Many believe that Maj-Gen Chamlong's crusade will draw more support from the people and encourage other pro-democracy groups to pursue their poltical goal.

Other opposition parties are expected to adjust their political strategy in line with his decision.

Under the present circumstances, the struggle between the two sides is expected to be tough. This is because military leaders have been fed with wrong intelligence reports from the start.

It is unlikely that political measures will be used to handle the anti-Suchinda movement, which is seen by some people as an attempt to create disturbance. Therefore, it will not be surprising if harsh measures are taken against the pro-democracy groups.

Maj-Gen Chamlong did not only put his own life at stake when he vowed to fast to death unless Prime Minister Suchinda resigns. The matter is also crucial for the life of the Government.

Boycott From Opposition Seen

BK0605004592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 92 pp 1, 3

[Text] The four opposition parties yesterday announced a boycott of Premier Suchinda Khraprayun's policy statement to Parliament this morning while a Cabinet source said the general may be forced to dissolve Parliament to break the political impasse.

A coalition of the Campaign for Popular Democracy, the Students' Federation of Thailand [SFT], the State Enterprise Workers' Association, the Labour Congress of Thailand and a teachers' organisation yesterday appealed to all people to stop working for a day today and to join the protest at Parliament House at 8 a.m.

SFT leader Prinya Tevanaruemitrkul urged all students to boycott class today and to join the protests which are also being held in Chiang Mai, Khon Kaen University, and in Hat Yai.

New Aspiration Party secretary-general Phisan Moolasartsathorn announced after meeting leaders of the Democrat, Palang Tham and Solidarity parties at Parliament that all 165 opposition MPs will boycott Gen Suchinda's delivery of his policy statement.

However, they will enter the chamber after the delivery and debate against the Government focusing on the points of Gen Suchinda's illegitimacy as an unelected prime minister, his behavior which does not give the public confidence, and Cabinet ministers who were declared unusually wealthy.

Last night about 20,000 people turned up in front of Parliament to give Palang Tham leader Chamlong Simuang and Chalat Worachat moral support for their "fast to the death" hunger strike against the "outsider" premier.

The crowd spilled onto the road and blocked traffic completely by sitting on the road between the Ananda Samakhom Throne Hall and the intersection behind Parliament.

A senior army officer who is a key cabinet minister told the BANGKOK POST that with the snowballing political situation Prime Minister Suchinda might be forced to dissolve Parliament and call another general election.

A former member of the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] also told the POST that he talked with several Cabinet ministers from the five coalition parties at the Coronation Day ceremony last night and they were of the same opinion.

Coalition party leaders were to meet last night to discuss the situation and the possibility of a dissolution of the House to prevent the situaiton from getting completely out of hand.

"Some of the ministers agreed that the only way out seems to be a dissolution of Parliament," the NPKC source said.

The Cabinet source said there is now a political deadlock with the opposition decision to boycott Gen Suchinda's delivery of the policy statement.

"If the Opposition uses this tactic then I see no way out except dissolving the House. Gen Suchinda might decide to do this to avoid political chaos in the country," said the Cabinet source, who is an active senior military officer.

The officer said the move by Maj-Gen Chamlong to "fast to the death" if Gen Suchinda refuses to resign may also lead to political chaos if the Palang Tham leader dies.

Asked if the political situation will lead to another coup, the officer said in his personal view political developments can be resolved by political means.

"Politically, a House dissolution is the best way out," said the general, who added that a power seizure by the Army would not benefit the country.

Cabinet members interviewed by the BANGKOK POST yesterday said they will not mind if the premier dissolves Parliament to break the political impasse.

If the opposition parties boycott the House session today it is reasonable for the premier to take this action, one minister said.

One Cabinet member from the Samakkhi Tham Party said: "It is fine for me. I'm ready for another general election and we hope that we will get elected with much more MPs than last time.

"How can one expect Gen Suchinda to resign? He comes to the post constitutionally with the support of five parties that control the majority in Parliament. I can assure you he will not submit to this kind of pressure."

Deputy Interior Minister Suchat Tancharoen yesterday criticised Maj-Gen Chamlong for his latest move to force the premier from office.

"Any political move to oust him (Gen Suchinda) should be made in Parliament. Maj-Gen Chamlong is an elected MP and he should play by democratic rules. Using such political tactics to achieve his political aim will only cause chaos and turmoil," said the minister.

He said he is concerned about the political situation which could turn explosive if the opposition parties are not responsible.

"It is understandable for students to move outside Parliament and make political demands. But for elected politicians, there is no justification for political moves outside Parliament," said the minister, a Chachoengsao MP.

Mr Suchat also believes a dissolution of the House might be the answer.

Mr Phisan said the four opposition parties support the action of Maj-Gen Chamlong.

Democrat secretary-general Sanan Khachornprasat called on Premier Suchinda to make another "sacrifice" and resign as premier.

"I visited Maj-Gen Chamlong and can see that the political situation is critical. It's very worrying," Maj-Gen Sanan said.

He said Maj-Gen Chamlong is a serious man of his word and if Gen Suchinda does not resign Chamlong will die. Maj-Gen Sanan predicts a solution will be offered within a couple of days.

Opposition sources said they initially wanted to boycott the policy statement altogether but Maj-Gen Sanan and his party objected, saying that the opposition would lose a chance to state its case to the people because the session will be broadcast live on radio and television.

The Democrats also argued that otherwise all the people will see and hear is government MPs praising the policy and presenting their poltiical views.

Palang Tham insisted on a total boycott but finally a compromise was worked out to boycott only Gen Suchinda's delivery.

Paper Looks at 'Month of Suchinda'

BK0605014592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 May 92 p B1

["Comment" by THE NATION'S Business Desk: "A Month of Suchinda"]

[Text] Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khraprayun will have been in office for exactly 30 days today. He has not only accomplished very little during the period but has added more uncertainty to the political situation.

The underlying reason for his acceptance of the premiership could not be hidden from the people, students and Opposition parties: the fact that it concerned the struggle for power on behalf of the military establishment against politicians.

More people are protesting on the streets. Close to a hundred thousand turned up on Monday compared to the 70,000 who joined the rally last month. The decision of the venerable Chamlong Simuang, leader of the Palang Tham Party, to join the ongoing fast adds yet another twist to the already vulnerable political outlook.

Damage from political miscalculation is spilling over to the economic arena. The Stock Exchange of Thailand [SET] has lost 71 points in the last 30 days to close at 760.98 points on Monday, a day when the turnover also plummeted to a six-month low of Bt1.72 billion [baht].

As the confidence steadily wears, foreign funds are diverted to markets exhibiting greater political stability. The most important question now is how to protect the relatively but persistently strong fundamentals of the Thai economy from the acerbity of a political backlash.

As the SET retreats, so too does the hope of a quick mobilization of funds to help bridge the gap between savings and investment. The gap may even widen, as foreign creditors assign lower values to Thailand's credit rating because of the politically dubious circumstances.

Efforts to stabilize a gradually faltering economy will be at the expense of the liberalization measures adopted by the two previous governments which aimed at nation-building through sustained long-term growth.

None is suggesting an economic upheaval in the short run. But a continuing political crisis would push the economy slowly into a realm where progress cannot be achieved and even retardation may set in.

None wants to see Thailand becoming another South Korea where opposition groups battle the government daily.

At this point, a time frame should be set for Suchinda to test his capability of administering the country. He should resign if he cannot prove himself in the next three or six months, and let the normal democratic process take its due course.

The normal democratic process means giving the House of Representatives the full powers to run the country and even the military establishment. People will learn to deal with corrupt politicians over time. But the process will only be prolonged if they have to deal first with dictatorship and then with corrupt politicians along a woefully-stretched learning curve.

But can anyone come to trust Suchinda's promises—even if they happened to be nuggets of wisdom—after he went back on his word of not accepting the premiership? He has unfortunately lost respect for the country in the eyes of the people and foreigners. This "second coup" is indeed very different from the other coups the country has witnessed and tolerated.

Some 30,000 Join Protest Rally at Parliament

BK0605063492 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] According to a report by a correspondent, about 30,000 people have joined the rally in front of the parliament today. Most of them are educated people and are employed. Roads in front of the National Assembly building and around the royal plaza were closed to traffic.

Meeting Called To Review Peace-Keeping Force

BK0505012092 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 5 May 92 p 1

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi called an urgent meeting of the Bangkok Peace-keeping Force yesterday morning as protests gathered strength against outsider Prime Minister Gen Suchinda Khraprayun.

Other Army top brass taking part in the hour-and-a-half meeting included Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen Wirot Saengsanit, Assistant Commander-in-Chief Gen Phaibun Hongsinlak, Chief-of-Staff Gen Pramon Phalasin, Deputy Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen Yuthana Khamdi, First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Chainarong Nunphakdi, First Army Corps Commander Lt-Gen Yuthaphan Makkaramani, First Infantry Division Commander Maj-Gen Thitiphong Channuwat and Army Secretary Maj-Gen Chaturit Phromska Na Sakon Nakhon.

Interior Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun and a representative of the Region One Provincial Police were also at the meeting at the First Army Region headquarters.

The officers were surprised to see reporters and asked them how they found out about the meeting and how they got into the headquarters.

They denied that the meeting was being held to plan how to deal with an expected large number of protesters. The officers insisted the meeting was planned a long time ago.

Gen Itsaraphong told reporters he would brief them about the meeting but would take only one question from them.

He denied the meeting was to plan how to handle a mob but to "review" how the peace-keeping force should handle "its responsibility to prevent chaos."

Meanwhile, the Crime Suppression Division, Metropolitan Police and Special Branch Police yesterday worked out plans to handle anti-Suchinda demonstrations.

Political Crisis Raises Fears of Financial Crash

BK0605012192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 May 92 p 17

[Text] Stock brokers want the authorities to close the stock market temporarily during the tense political situation and hunger strike by Phalang Tham Party leader Chamlong Simuang.

But a Finance Ministry spokesman has turned down the request, saying such a closure should be based on economic problems, not political unrest.

Stock analysts, who predict the stock market will plunge when it opens today, believe the hunger strike will compel Prime Minister Suchinda Khraprayun to find an urgent solution to public opposition to his premiership.

"The authorities should consider taking necessary action tomorrow (today) to prevent the market from crashing. We believe the market will plunge if no action is taken," said a broker who asked not to be named.

He said the domestic political situation has heated up with Maj-Gen Chamlong starting a hunger strike to the death to protest against the appointment of Gen Suchinda as an "outsider" prime minister.

"The best solution to protect the stock market is for the authorities to close the market temporarily," the broker said.

The Ruam Phatthana 2 Fund set up during the Persian Gulf crisis to shore up the market would have insufficient funds to rescue the market this time, he said.

If the stock exchange and the Finance Ministry set up another fund to restore the market it will be too late.

"It will take a month or so to establish a new fund. It will be too late."

Many authorities concerned, such as stock exchange president Maruay Phadungsithi, Stock Exchange Commission secretary-general Ekamon Khiriwat and Finance Minister Suthi Singsane, were not available for comment yesterday.

However, Finance Ministry spokesman Suphachai Phisitwanit said the Finance Minister and his deputies have not ignored the situation.

"They have closely watched the situation on the stock market every hour during the past few weeks and are ready to take any action if necessary," Mr Suphachai said.

Responding to calls by some brokers for the authorities to close the stock market temporarily, Mr Suphachai said the situation is not yet as serious as feared.

"Instead, the Finance Ministry predicts that the stock market tomorrow (today) will not move significantly, either up or down as the debate on the Government's policies will begin in the afternoon.

"We (the Finance Ministry) believe the Government will be able to handle the situation and solve the problems.

"But in the worst case, if the Government cannot solve the problem, the adverse negative impact on the stock market will take place on Thursday," Mr Suphachai said.

However, the Finance Ministry will take action to protect the stock market when there are serious economic problems.

"The political problems do not affect the economic fundamentals. There should be no reason for the Finance Ministry to take action, particularly the temporary closure of the market."

Mr Suphachai also believes only small investors will panic while big and institutional investors will wait to see what happens.

Meanwhile, Dr Somchai Phakkaphakwiwat, a prominent stock analyst, said the hunger strike by Maj-Gen Chalong will be a catalyst for Opposition parties to take a solid stance in opposing Gen Suchinda.

This will, he predicts, speed the Government to compromise with the Opposition.

"There are two solutions. The first is that Gen Suchinda resigns as prime minister and the other is that he dissolves Parliament," Dr Somchai said.

Either option used by Gen Suchinda will make the stock market rebound strongly immediatly, he said.

But for today, Dr Somchai agrees the market will fall while the trading volume will be very thin.

Dr Somchai said the political situation has shaken the confidence of foreign investors, particularly speculators, who accounted for about 20 percent of total foreign investors in the SET.

During the first quarter of this year, the trading volume by foreign investors amounted to 69,458 million baht, 63 percent higher than the volume of 42,468 million baht for the same period last year.

"This is because foreign investors at that time believed Thailand's political situation would improve as the general election would be held on March 22. However, their confidence was shaken after the appointment of Gen Suchinda as prime minister," he said.

Broadcast News Censorship by Military

BK0205111192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 1 May 92 pp C1, C3

[Article by Prawit Rotchanaphruk: "News Not Fit for Adult Viewing?"]

[Text] The millions of viewers tuning in every night to watch anchorman Dr Somkiat Onwimon read the news on Channel 5 probably do not realise it but the programme has been directly censored by the military.

It used to be that 15 or 16 video tapes of the day's news would be put in a basket at the channel's Rama IV Road headquarters to be taken for broadcasting.

Since April 23, the number of tapes has increased to more than 20. The extra videos are supplied by military journalists at the Army-owned station—and there is now an extra stage in the editing process. The basket goes down from the editorial department of the subcontractors EM News, on the second floor for viewing by the army station chief a floor below before the tapes are broadcast.

Any tapes on protests against the Suchinda administration or deemed to "destabilize" it are given numbers above sixteen.

As there is invariably only time to air 16 items in the half-hour prime news slot, it is inevitable that such controversial reports are not shown, keeping the viewers in the dark.

This description of the machines of censorship by a senior TV journalist is the starkest indication yet that the shutters are coming down on a brief era of glasnost in Thailand's broadcast media.

Since the elections on March 22 there has been a growing mood of despair, frustration and even some fear sweeping through the five TV stations.

The direct military controls on Channel 5 and the other Army station, Channel 7, make them weather vanes for the other stations, the government owned 3, 9 and 11. They have been following the Army channels' lead and exercising self-censorship rather than incur the wrath of the military.

There are strong hints that the other Army station, Channel 7, is under the same tight rein as Channel 5, with tapes being submitted to the censor.

Phisit Kiratikankun, news editor of the Army-owned Channel 7, made a cautious comment about the news censorship: "I don't have to explain much. It's obvious to everyone already.

"It's difficult for us TV people to criticise our bosses and the army. You know that I must be careful."

According to sources, in addition to being expected to follow the lead of the Army stations, the three government owned channels were issued with a strongly-worded memo by their overseers at the Public Relations Department telling them not to air items rocking the government's boat.

The subtle and not-so-subtle pressure being applied to the broadcast media is the result, pundits believe, of the fragile nature of the new administration.

With Suchinda's energies largely being focussed on trying to cool resentment among many coalition members over the slicing up of the ministerial pie, the last thing he wants is a hostile media to cope with.

One media pundit said: "One shouldn't forget that the broadcast media has always been regarded by the military and the government as their own tools of power. Not only that but the public never expected to get real news from TV and radio.

"But things really opened up during the election campaign and questions were asked of politicians which had never been asked before and the Thai public got to like that.

"I think the genie has been well and truly let out of the bottle and there can be no going back now; the force of public opinion won't allow the powers that be get away with it any longer.

"I understand that the stations are getting a lot of irate calls from the public asking what has happened to the news."

The grim realities of the new era dawned with the first large-scale protest rally against the Suchinda administration organised by the opposition last Monday. The 70,000 people attending the demonstration in the Royal Plaza easily made it the top story of the day for any serious news outfit.

That was certainly the way the print media saw it, with the mass-circulation THAI RAT, running a screaming two inch deep headline: "Strong call for Suchinda's resignation." MATICHON newspapers, popular among young educated Thais, flashed: "About 100,000 didn't bow to threats! Show of Might Against Suchinda.

All five TV channels sent crew to cover the protest but only Channel 3 and 9 managed to squeeze very brief reports on that night, and even then they did not tell the whole story.

"In normal circumstances, the voice of any speaker in a rally is aired to the viewers. But in this case, the anchor person's voice was played over it and the objective of the rally was not even mentioned," said one senior TV journalist.

Staff at Channel 5 did not even bother to trouble the censor with their footage of the rally. A journalist, however, sneaked the tape into the broadcasting basket and it was aired in an early morning bulletin the following day, before being pulled from subsequent news programmes.

The errant item certainly stirred up a hornet's nest at Channel 5 and in particular at EM News, an arm of the famous Thai media company, Pacific Intercommunication, which also supplies news for CNN.

A source at the station said: "That same day one news editor of EM News was called into the Army station chief's office. All he was told by the high ranking officer was: 'We have already given our policy in presenting news to you.'"

But the inference was clear that there would be trouble if there were any further items aired criticising the new government.

The news editor was summoned again the next day, April 22, and told by the Army station chief that from the following day all tapes for broadcast would require the officer's signature.

Ironically, this was the same day that Suchinda denied to the press that he had instigated any move towards censorship and said he intended to have an open administration.

Perhaps even more ironic for the average Thai viewer, EM News is supplying uncensored reports to CNN, to which only an affluent minority can afford to have access and buy the satellite dish or pay IBC subscription fees.

The hunger strike by former Democrat MP Chalat Worachat, the focus of the opposition to Suchinda's assumption of the premiership, has suffered a similar fate to the rally, with just a few seconds of coverage going on air.

Historically, Thai TV has always had to look over its shoulder to make sure government paymasters and the Army are happy.

When General Prem Tinsulanon seized power with a coup in 1980, the clamps went firmly on as he fought to consolidate his position.

But, by and large, in the latter part of his eight years in office, Prem eased his grip on the media, a trend which continued under the elected General Chatchai Chunhawan and even under the appointed Anan Panyarachun.

Again ironically, it is a return to an elected government which has heralded a return to the bad old days of infringing the right to freedom of speech. According to one veteran media man, the mechanism of censorship is more overt than ever.

One media source at channel 5 said: "During the early Prem years the censorship was something like a telephone request from ministers to the head of the station to pull a particular programme or news item.

"It was something that the editor would stay silent about; you wouldn't even know who had made the call which would start: 'The boss is not happy...' The requests were invariably met because then the sense of democracy was far less developed than it is now. Right now, however, adjutants of the Army commanders are coming in person to monitor videotapes themselves.

"During the time when Narong's bid for the premiership was faltering, some high-ranking military officers came to the station. They ordered the editor of EM News to set up interviews with some businessmen about the premiership, with only those who said positive things about having an unelected but 'neutral' person as premier to be aired.

"The editors of EM News refused but there are some military journalists on site and they were ordered to carry out the interviews. Of course the unbalanced interviews were screened later that day."

TV journalists are still covering news of the opposition and popular protests as usual, but very little of this coverage made it to the glass screen. Frustrated TV journalists also fear for their personal security, witnessed by the Suthichai incident and reporters being roughed up by Suchinda's men.

Nongsuda Tirawatanawit, a senior student of Chulalongkon University's Faculty of Communication Arts, said: "I don't want to watch TV news anymore. It's better reading newspapers because (on television) there is only news of the government activities."

Dr Choemsak Pinthong, host of the famous weekly political programme Mong Tang Mum (View from a Different Perspective) on Channel 11 admits that his programme has been under the scrutiny of a censor for the past two weeks.

He said: "I was intimidated by one minister even before was appointed. This a form of harassment."

The famous TV host, however, did not want to elaborate on how he was threatened.

Choemsak said: "I feel like other ordinary people, that we know the authorities have been hiding various kinds of news from us.

"People are not stupid. They chose to censor TV and radio because they know that Thai society likes to watch and listen more than reading.

"The broadcast media is an apparatus of those in power, they consider it their personal property.

Not all in the broadcast news field are totally downcast. Some are adopting a wait-and-see attitude, hoping the present circumstances represent a temporary aberration.

Somchai Sawaengkan, deputy news, editor of Channel 3, says some censorship is normal when there is a change of government.

Somchai, however, maintains that there are certain limits of freedom that should not be crossed. "I believe that it (news) will be eventually balanced by itself."

Radio programmes, too, have been subjected to censorship in recent days. An incident on an edition of Sai Trong Chaak Hong Khao (Direct Line From The News Room) hosted by Suthichai Yun, a well known TV and radio commentator and publisher of THE NATION newspaper, is one example.

The programme is submitted from THE NATION to Radio Thailand and Suthilak Chonhsunthon, the programme's news editor, said: "On April 17 Suthichai Yun's voice was on air when halfway through the programme, as he was talking about the hunger strike of Chalat Worachat, his voice suddenly disappeared and music was played to the end of his programme."

The station had to embarrass itself by allowing Suthichai to broadcast the following day when he told listeners that if his voice disappeared again they would know that Radio Thailand was wielding the censors' axe.

Five days later, two cars belonging to Suthichai were vandalised in the early hours outside his Sukhumwit Soi 4 home. The attack was believed to be a warning to media critics of the administration.

Prof Dr Tanawadi Bunlu, a specialist from Chulalongkon University, said: "The situation is terrible. It's an impeachment of people's right to watch and listen.

"What they are doing now is not supplying news as usual, but propaganda. People are thirsty for news and they will certainly find ways to get it."

A critical test for the new administration is the promise of a live broadcast from parliament on May 6 for a general policy debate. The debate will coincide with another major opposition rally.

Vietnam

China's Jiang Zemin Meets With Nguyen Van Linh

BK0505153392 Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, received in Beijing yesterday afternoon Nguyen Van Linh, advisor to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. [CPV]

Nguyen Van Linh expressed his joy at having revisited Beijing, meeting and exchanging views with the Chinese party leader and studying experiences of China's reforms and open-door policy.

He expressed satisfaction at the all-sided development of the friendship and cooperation between the two peoples and wished the Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China still greater achievements in implementing the reforms and open-door policy and success in socialist construction in China.

Nguyen Van Linh asked Jiang Zemin to convey his greetings to Deng Xiaoping and other Chinese leaders.

For his part, General Secretary Jiang Zemin welcomed the former CPV general secretary's visit to China and expressed his belief that following the Sino-Vietnamese summit held in November 1991, this visit would contribute to strengthening the mutual understanding, friendship and cooperation between the two countries. General Secretary Jiang asked Nguyen Van Linh to convey his greetings to Pham Van Dong, Do Muoi, Vo Van Kiet and other Vietnamese party and state leaders.

Host and guest also informed each other of the latest developments in each country, and exchanged views on issues of common concern.

Later, General Secretary Jiang Zemin gave a banquet in honour of advisor Nguyen Van Linh.

Present at the reception were Wu Xueqian, vice premier of the State Council, Zhu Liang, head of the CPC Central Committee's International Liaison Department, Chen Jinhua, head of the State Commission for Restructuring Economy, Zhu Shanqing, deputy head of the CPC Central Committee's International Liaison Department, and Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Zhang Dewei. Vietnamese Ambassador to China Dang Nghiem Hoanh was also on hand.

Nguyen Van Linh arrived in Beijing on May 3 as guest of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

Vo Van Kiet, Japanese Minister Discuss Trade

BK0505153992 Hanoi VNA in English 1440 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet received in Hanoi on May 4 a delegation of the Japanese Ministry of Construction led by Minister Taku Yamasaki.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet welcomed the Japanese minister's first visit to Vietnam and reaffirmed Vietnam's policy to continue the renovation process and to promote friendship and coopertion with all countries, especially those in the region, for the interests of each country and of peace, stability, and development in the region and other parts of the world. He spoke of preferential areas of investment in Vietnam such as electricity and communications and transport.

For his part, the Japanese minister, who has been here to inquire into the situation of construction and the possibilities of cooperation in this field between the two countries, spoke highly of Vietnam's open-door policy. He said that Japan is ready to share its experiences with Vietnam in rebuilding the war-torn country.

The same day, Chairman Vo Van Kiet received a visiting delegation of Liberal-Democratic Party members of the Japanese House of Councillors led by Mr. Nakanishi Keisuke, chairman of the Coordination Committee of the Japanese Diet.

Mr. Nakanishi Keisuke expressed his party's aspiration to contribute to promoting the traditional cooperative relations between the two countries. He also spoke of his country's desire to invest in the building of some welfare projects in Hanoi.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet, for his part, said that the Vietnamese-Japanese relations have of late been strengthened, especially in trade. Vietnam highly valued that development, he further said, because the two countries have been bound by traditional relations and mutual trust. He expressed his wish that Japan would contribute more positively to improving the regional situation for the time being as well as in the future.

Le Quang Dao Discusses Visit to Japan, Trade

BK0305101892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 29 Apr 92

[Report on interview with National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao by unidentified Voice of Vietnam correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] Chairman of the National Assembly of Vietnam Mr. Le Quang Dao has just concluded a visit to Japan which, as he described it, is very impressive. Mr. Le Quang Dao has this to say about his Japan trip in an interview with our radio:

[Begin Le Quang Dao recording in Vietnamese, fading into English translation] This is the first visit to Japan of a high-level delegation of the Vietnamese National Assembly. The visit has concluded successfully. [end recording]

During the visit, the Vietnamese guests were accorded a warm welcome by the Japanese authorities.

Mr. Le Quang Dao and other members of the Vietnamese delegation held talks with the Japanese lawmakers in a spirit of mutual understanding and straightforwardness. Mr. Le Quang Dao also made an introduction of the amendments to the Constitution of Vietnam, which have just been approved by the National Assembly. This demonstrates the fact that Vietnam is not only promoting economic, but also political renovation in conformity with the new situation. In general, all of the Japanese political circles and public, support Vietnam's renovation process.

Mr. Le Quang Dao said: During those talks, the Japanese officials highly appreciated the development in the relations of friendship and cooperation in many fields between Japan and Vietnam, particularly in economy. However, both sides [word indistinct] to the constraints that are incompatible with the potential and traditional relations between the two countries. He noted that Japan has become Vietnam's biggest trade partner. However, Japan only ranks ninth on the list of foreign countries investing into Vietnam. That is the reason why both sides believe in the possibilities and conditions for promoting bilateral ties in the interest of both countries and peace in the region.

On the prospects for future relations, Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao informed of a number of forthcoming activities to be carried out between the two legislative bodies. He noted that up to now, there have been exchanges of visits between delegations of the two National Assemblies. No official activities have been conducted. In the immediate future, the two countries' National Assemblies will step up their activities to help strengthen Japan-Vietnam ties.

On the impressions of his visit, Mr. Le Quang Dao said: Japan is truly an economic power. However, he noted, the modernity of Japan's economy does not erode traditional cultural values. Japan succeeded in preserving and constantly developing its cultural traditions. This is a bright example for all people to follow.

Cuban Foreign Minister Feted by Nguyen Manh Cam

BK0505155992 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 5—Isidore Malmierca Peoli, minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of Cuba, and his wife arrived here this afternoon on an official visit to Vietnam at the invitation of Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

Minister Peoli and his party were met at the government's guest-house by Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai, and Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam Ms. Tania Maceira Delgado.

Minister Nguyen Manh Cam hosted a banquet here this evening in honour of Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli and his party.

Cuban Communist Party Delegates Visit 21-30 Apr

BK3004070392 Hanoi VNA in English 0641 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—A delegation of the Department of International Relations of the Communist Party of Cuba headed by Fernando Ramirez, member of the Central Committee [CC] of the CPC and first deputy head of the department, visited Vietnam from April 21-30.

While here, the delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum.

The delegation held talks with a delegation of the External Relations Commission of the Communist Party of Vietnam headed by its deputy head Trinh Ngoc Thai. It also had working sessions with the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, the Economic Commission of the CPV CC, the Central Overseas Vietnamese Commission, the party committees of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. It called at the Tay Ninh sugar plant built with Cuban assistance, the Vung Tau-Ba Ria oil and gas establishment, the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power plant and various economic, cultural establishments and places of historical interest in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Wherever it visited, the delegation was warmly welcomed by officials and people, demonstrating the traditional solidarity and fraternal friendship between the communist parties and peoples of Vietnam and Cuba.

The Cuban delegation was received by Hong Ha, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the External Relations Commission.

Ms. Tania Maceira, Cuban ambassador to Vietnam, was present at the reception and other activities of the delegation.

Mahathir Interviewed on Cooperation Prospects

BK3005122592 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 22 Apr 92

[Report on a 21 April interview in Hanoi jointly held by unidentified reporters of Vietnam Television and the Daily NHAN DAN with Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed during his SRV visit from 19-22 April 1992 as head of a Malaysian Government delegation—Mahathir's answers recorded in English fading into Vietnamese translation]

[Summary] [Reporter] Could you talk about Malaysia's economic achievements over the years?

[Mahathir] "I can say that Malaysian's economy has achieved rapid growth since the 1985 recession with its growth rate increasing from 8 percent in 1989 to 8.6 percent in 1991. The reasons for this success is that Malaysia has enjoyed stability and peace and has adopted appropriate policies."

[Reporter] Could you tell us about the primary objectives of Malaysia's national development plan for 1991-2000?

[Mahathir] "Under Malaysia's five-year development plan ending in 1995, we will concentrate on developing the infrastructure. This will definitely help accelerate the economic growth. Malaysia's per-capita income is projected to double from its present 2,700 U.S. dollars by the year 2000."

[Reporter] Could you talk about the prospects of Malaysia-Vietnam cooperation?

[Mahathir] "First I think that Vietnam has a good policy and is moving in the right direction. Malaysia is very concerned about Vietnam's stability because that will contribute to the stability of this region. Malaysia has attached importance to economic development and is ready to share its experience with Vietnam if they are deemed useful to Vietnam."

[Reporter] Could you talk about Malaysia's regional policy for the period ahead?

[Mahathir] "Malaysia's regional policy is very simple. We want to build friendly relations with all nations in the region and to promote mutual assistance for development. This will contribute to regional stability."

[Reporter] Could you tell us of the initial outcome of your official friendship visit to Vietnam?

[Mahathir] "We have started establishing close relations with the Vietnamese Government, especially with his Excellency Council of Minister Chairman Vo Van Kiet. We think that this will facilitate the settlement of various issues. On the other hand, we have also explained Malaysia's policy and have been further informed of Vietnam's policy. This will lead to better relations between the two countries, especially in economic development and investment."

[Reporter] Thank you very much for having granted us this interview.

Hanoi Hails Official Mahathir Visit to Vietnam

BK3004132592 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 24 Apr 92

[Commentary by station editor Duong Quang Minh]

[Text] During the past three months, there have been two significant events in the Vietnam-Malaysia ties namely the 20-23 January official friendship visit to Malaysia by the Vietnamese Government delegation led by comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and the 19-24 April official friendship visit to Vietnam by the Malaysian Government delegation led by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed.

The Vietnam-Malaysia friendship has not only been evident by the close ties, warm welcomes, and hospitality extended to each other between leaders and peoples of the two countries. It is also shown in the various economic cooperation agreements that have been made on the basis of equality and mutual interest. During Chairman Vo Van Kiet's official friendship visit to Malaysia three months ago, both sides signed a number of important agreements including one on protecting and promoting investment. They also agreed to further strengthen the agreements reached in March 1990 to expand cooperation in shipping, forestry, aviation, finance, banking, training of cadres, education, culture, construction, and rural development and so forth.

During the recent official visit to Vietnam by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, Vietnam and Malaysia signed an agreement on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation; an agreement on post and telecommunications cooperation, and a memorandum of understanding on the Malaysian Government's technical aid to Vietnam. Both sides also agreed to hold talks to reach agreements on double taxation, commerce, tourism cooperation and so forth.

What has moved us most is Malaysia's readiness to share its experience in national economic development with Vietnam. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed, in his two speeches—delivered in Kuala Lumpur and Hanoi respectively in January and April—said the Malaysian Government has highly appraised the positive changes in the renovation undertaking in Vietnam since 1986. Malaysia asserted that as a neighbor and a friend, it is ready to cooperate with Vietnam in all fields in which it has experience and facilities.

Malaysia and Vietnam have many similar historical and geographical similarities, and natural resources. Like Vietnam, it has a 4,000-year long history and has experienced foreign domination. It gained independence in August 1957. Malaysia has fertile land, a suitable climate for agricultural development, oil and natural gas deposits, and precious minerals. During its 35-year struggle for national construction, the Malaysian people have scored many remarkable achievements. It is currently the world's leading exporter of natural rubber and palm oil, and is among the biggest exporters of tin, minerals, natural gas, and so forth. Its per capita income is $2,000. Malaysia has formulated its economic development plan for the next three decades based on an estimated GNP growth rate of 7 percent annually. This plan is aimed not only at making Malaysia an industrialized nation, but also at increasing its production by twofold in the year 2000 and eightfold in 2020. To carry out this plan, the Government has promulgated various major policies to accelerate industrialization, attract more foreign investment, and to curb inflation. It has taken many measures to protect its national independence and economic development in the direction of maintaining sovereignty, opposing superpower economic pressure, and promoting friendship with regional nations to cope with economic pressure.

In his meeting with General Secretary Do Muoi on 21 April, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed stressed that beginning as a poor country, Malaysia has struggled for foreign cooperation and investment to develop the country while taking essential measures to protect its independence and sovereignty. For this reason, Malaysia wishes to cooperate with Vietnam in its national reconstruction. Malaysia welcomes and totally supports Vietnam's decision to join the 1976 Bali Treaty of Cooperation and Friendship as well as its efforts to hold talks with ASEAN member countries. Malaysia has also proposed the establishment of an Asian Economic Forum, a consultative mechanism for East Asian nations to discuss and exchange views on national and international economic and trade issues. The Malaysian prime minister also expressed his belief that after the signing of the Cambodia peace accord, Vietnam and other Indochinese countries will progress quickly. In this context, Southeast Asia will become a more active and developed region and will play an important role in the world economy.

The Vietnamese people highly appraise Malaysia's goodwill toward Vietnam. The splendid success of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed's official friendship visit and that of Chairman Vo Van Kiet's official visit to Malaysia three months ago, have created favorable conditions for bilateral multifaceted cooperation for the interest of each country and Southeast Asia as a whole, and for the mutual interest of the world community in the current trend of cooperation and development.

Postal Conference With Laos, Cambodia Ends

BK3005154392 Hanoi VNA in English 1448 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—The Post Conference of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia was closed in Vientiane yesterday after 5 day's sitting.

Representatives of the three countries signed the minutes of the meeting. An aide-memoir on bilateral cooperation between the corporations of post and telecommunications of Vietnam and Laos were also concluded.

Heavy Industry Ministry Licenses Joint Ventures

BK0205072092 Hanoi VNA in English 0542 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 2—Twelve joint ventures between the Vietnam Ministry of Heavy Industry and various foreign companies in gold and gemstone exploitation and processing car, computer, and electronic goods assembly as well as in the manufacture of galvanized iron, medical rubber items, medicines, have been licensed.

So far, more than 100 companies from 36 countries, including Japan, South Korea, the Federal Republic of Germany, Australia, Britain, France, Italy, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Finland, Russia, India, Hungary and China, have discussed with the ministry plans for economic and technical cooperation as well as joint ventures in mineral ore exploitation and processing, the manufacture of agricultural machines, electric wires, high-quality rubber products, etc.

The ministry is also collaborating with two big foreign automobile manufacturing groups in working out an overall plan for Vietnam's automobile industry up to the year 2005.

Nguyen Duy Nien Visits Kuwait, UAE, Oman

BK0205161492 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 2 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 2—Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Nien, special envoy of the Vietnamese State Council President, visited Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and the Kingdom of Oman from April 21-30.

Deputy Minister Nguyen Duy Nien conveyed State Council President Vo Chi Cong's letters to leaders of those countries and discussed measures to further develop the multi-faceted relations between Vietnam and those countries.

He was warmly received by Prime Minister Sa'id al-'Abdallah al-Sabah and minister of royal court Nasser Muhammad of Kuwait; President Zayid Bin-Sultan al Nuhayyan, deputy prime ministers, foreign minister, and other senior officials of the United Arab Emirates; and head of state of Oman Qabus Bin-Sa'id.

Deputy Minister Nguyen Duy Nien informed them of the Vietnamese people's achievements in the cause of national construction as well as Vietnam's external policy of being friends with all countries. He also put forth proposals aimed at promoting the relations in economic, commercial, and other fields between Vietnam and Gulf countries.

The leaders of those countries highly appreciated Vietnam's achievements in renovation and its external policy. They held that the new situation has created many favourable conditions for the Gulf countries to develop their all-sided relations with Vietnam, first of all the economic and trade ties.

Deputy Minister Nguyen Duy Nien held talks with leaders of Foreign Ministries of the said countries on bilateral relations and on regional situation and international issues. Vietnam and above-said countries have shared the views on regional and international issues relating to peace, security, and development.

The United Arab Emirates and the Kingdom of Oman and Vietnam agreed in principle to establish their diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level in the coming time.

Leaders of the United Arab Emirates and Oman expressed their readiness to cooperate with Vietnam in the fields of commerce and labour, and their willingness to buy from Vietnam rice, tea, coffee, and fine arts articles. In Kuwait, Nguyen Duy Nien and his party met with minister of commerce, deputy ministers of labour and social affairs, the president of the Arab Development Fund, and director of oil and gas companies. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship and cooperation. Kuwait officials expressed their government and people's wishes to develop multi-faceted relations with Vietnam.

'Lenient' Public Malfeasance Sentences Viewed

BK0505094992 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 18 Mar 92 pp 1, 4

[Report by Vu The Lan]

[Text] Recently, following a report in the Daily NHAN DAN on a court case involving the National Reserves Department, many readers in Hanoi and other localities wrote us or personally visited the newspaper's publisher to express their views on how this case should have been handled. Most of those interested in this case believed that the sentence against those found guilty in this case was not harsh enough, given severe socioeconomic consequences created by the culprits. Some of the readers raised the question of whether central-level authorities had allowed culprits to escape unpunished or whether they had been too lenient against these culprits now that the provincial courts in a number of localities had handed down a sentence—varying from 15-20 years imprisonment—against these culprits. From this court case, the readers also cited other court trials on economic crimes, and wondered why culprits had not been severely punished in many cases involving corruption and smuggling.

This suspicion is well-founded, considering a 1991 situation report presented by the People's Court before the National Assembly, which says in part that: "In general, the results obtained in the fight against corruption and smuggling are still very poor. This has caused a loss of confidence in the efficiency of the law and a negative impact on the prestige of law enforcement organs." The report also reflected a sense of self-criticism when admitting that "our juridical sector should take responsibility for the unfairness of our adjudication over many court cases involving corruption, smuggling, and economic crimes."

Doubts Over Unusual Situations.

As known by many, the efficiency of the law depends on many factors, the most important being the results achieved by various courts of law in adjudication. These results are precisely those court verdicts that have been fairly handed down (on the right persons, for the right offences, and in accordance with the law) and which are actually to be executed. Because there are so many unfair court verdicts, the antismuggling and anticorruption situation over the past one and a half years has not gotten any better but has instead increased in terms of both the number of cases and the volume of lost property, thus causing bitter feelings among the people. Over the first nine months of 1991, the number of corruption cases accepted by courts for preliminary hearings has increased substantially as compared with before. Counting on certain kinds of offenses alone—including the stealing and misuse of socialist property, intentional violations of state stipulations on economic management with serious consequences, seizure of socialist property by means of deception or by force, and bribery—there have been some 3,294 cases which have either been accepted for preliminary hearings or been put on trial by various courts. These cases involved 5,729 culprits, an increase of 83.9 percent over previous year in terms of the number of cases and 66.58 percent in terms of the number of culprits. Also in the first nine months of 1991, the number of smuggling cases accepted by various courts for preliminary hearings has increased by 3.5 percent over last year.

This figure is just the tip of the icebeg, given the actual corruption and smuggling situation in our country. In fact, the number of corruption and smuggling cases is much larger than reported. Worse still, among those cases already discovered, the number of cases put on criminal trial are few, and the sentences handed down are too light. As for smuggling, the number of cases put on trial is less than 1 percent of those discovered. Actions taken have been confined mainly to "internal adjudication" or to "tax penalty."

Unfair Characteristics of Various Court Verdicts.

As said above, a fair court verdict should ensure the punishment of the right person for the right offense in accordance with the law. All those unjudicious and ambiguous verdicts handed down by courts can in no way ensure this requirement. From what we see, failure lies mainly in the fact that trials have not been carried out in accordance with the law.

It is known that the People's Supreme Court with its function of guiding the unified enforcement of law nationwide has issued guidance for applying heavy punishments to those who cause damage to socialist assets worth more than 50 million dong. However, recently some tribunals have inflicted overly light punishments in such cases. For example, if the people's court in Ho Chi Minh City sentenced Nguyen Ngoc Anh to 11 years of imprisonment (Paragraph 3, Article 133 of the penal code) on a charge of embezzling 61 million dong from the Phimexco Company, why then was Bui Quoc Manh—chief of the joint business venture between the supply company of the 3d precinct and the technical and supply service company of this city—who embezzled 71 million dong, sentenced to only four years' imprisonment (Paragraph 2, Article 133)? Another case: Nguyen Hong Thai, an Army cadre, who swindled and embezzled nearly 80-million-dong worth of socialist assets, was sentenced by a court martial to only four years of imprisonment with suspended execution of the sentence.

Many courts have also inflicted overly light sentences on smugglers. For example: Ha Van Quy, director of the Lang Son provincial bank, connived with his accomplices to smuggle 482 ounces of gold across the border for sale in order to embezzle the difference in prices. He was apprehended and the gold confiscated. However, he was sentenced by the Lang Son provincial court to only three years' imprisonment with suspended execution of the sentence. Vo Van Be, chairman of Can Giuoc District People's Committee, Long An Province, who together with his accomplices smuggled in nearly 1 million packs of foreign cigarettes, was sentenced to only two years' imprisonment by the 9th Military Region court martial. In these cases some courts have argued that under the new mechanism the defendants resorted to smuggling in order to increase their units' budgets, which means that "they committed crimes under especially difficult circumstances not caused by them." That was a mitigating detail for defendants. With such an argument, those who were keen to observe the court proceedings could not help but question whether this was meant to protect the defendants. Noteworthy was that in the first nine months of 1991, 117 of the convicted smugglers, or 65.56 percent, received suspended sentences. Large numbers of cadres and people have worried much about how those defendants could receive suspended sentences even though they have caused huge losses of state assets. This is the main cause for the people's losing confidence in the validity of the law as well as in those who wield the balance of justice. Many people have posed the question: "What is behind all those suspended sentences?"

It should be clearly stated that according to our state law, a suspended sentence is not a punishment. It is a measure to conditionally exempt execution of the imprisonment sentence, when the defendant receives a court sentence of not more than five years of imprisonment, and when there is every assertive indication that personally the defendant is not a dangerous individual for society, and that the mitigating details are based on whether it is believed likely that the defendant will rehabilitate himself in his area of work under the good educational effect of society. As a result, suspended sentences cannot be applied casually, but must be guarantees for conditions stipulated for specific cases. The above-mentioned inappropriate use of suspended sentences, even in those cases with serious consequences, has clearly indicated that many courts have not correctly enforced laws and allowed criminals to escape justice, created conditions for more serious recidivists, and deprived the law of its educational, deterrent, and preventive effect on those would-be criminals. We think this is also the main reason why corruption and smuggling are tending to increase.

Cause of All Causes

To ensure objectivity for all sentences and decisions of the courts so people can be properly tried and correctly sentenced in accordance with the law, our state has stipulated that "during the trials, judges and the people's jurors must be independent and obey the law only." These are the two aspects of a unified issue which restrain each other and serve as basic principles for legal proceedings of judiciary agencies and organization of the court system. This stipulation is, in fact, aimed at creating conditions for judges to be free from all ties so they can study the cases and reflect on documents and proof in the files, and through public investigations at court sittings, and reach strict and just judgments in order to not injure innocent people nor let criminals escape and, at the same time, to prevent some people in positions of authority from abusing their power to protect criminals, and grossly interfering with court adjudicating procedures.

However, in reality, these principles are rarely understood and correctly applied in their true sense. They have been seriously violated. Violations of principle can be noted under two forms. The first one is that in its subjective sense, the adjudicating board wants to fulfill its task strictly and seriously, but it has been impeded by outside influences (party committees, local administration, individuals abusing their authority, and relatives of defendants) which it cannot overcome, and then it loses its independence. As a result, it has become rightist in its adjudication, trying to dodge responsibility and thus ending up adjudicating incorrectly in order to be "safe." For quite a number of cases that had been tried in other places, then at a public hearing, the judge had only to pull out of his pocket a ready-made verdict to read regardless of the objective realities demonstrated at the hearing. Facts also show that some judges were impervious to outside influence, and did preserve their independence to obey only the law, but then they had to bear the consequences of their correct actions. They were dismissed or transferred, or became "targets" of reprisal by this or that higher echelon, and so forth.

The second type of violation of principle is where even though the adjudicating board was under no outside influence, it itself intended to disobey the law. As a matter of fact, this involves trying to hide behind the label of "independence" in order to violate the law. It likes to adjudicate with a heavy or light hand depending on the cases. We think this is a dangerous tendency of the justice in our country, a tendency which has been on the rise in recent years, especially regarding cases of corruption and smuggling. Under the disguise of "independence," some tribunals have adopted an erroneous point of view that economic violations should be inflicted only with heavy economic fines but light punishments. As a result, some defendants have been authorized to pay fines before being tried or even at the trial session, and their payment of fines has been considered a mitigating factor for them. This situation has caused a very bad opinion among the people about those who adjudicate. Some people have even questioned whether the defendants have paid other money besides the fines to the authorities concerned in order to receive mitigation?

What "Remedial" Action Would Be Effective?

Corruption and smuggling are causing major damage to our country's economy and society. They reduce the people's confidence in the party leadership and weaken the effectiveness of state management, and might be a factor leading to political instability. Our party and state have therefore issued many directives requiring resolute action to eradicate these evils, and to severely and strictly punish corrupt people and smugglers according to law, especially those who have caused huge losses. It is crystal clear that loose adjudication by the judiciary branch in the recent past is a big mistake that cannot be overlooked. To overcome this situation, we think there must be two types of measures: The first one includes long-term measures. First of all, there should be a mechanism of guarantees for tribunals to be truly independent from all outside interference, particularly from party committee echelons and local administration. We might study and organize the party life activities for tribunal cadres in such a way that they would not depend on the local party echelons. We might study and organize local courts depending on the levels of adjudication (first and final hearings), and not by the administrative levels as they are now. We should establish a system for selecting, appointing, and dismissing court judges of all ranks, and for building regulations on the selection and election of people's jurors.

The second one includes immediate measures. Those courts, judges, and people's jurors for whom many adjudicated cases during the quarter or year had to be corrected or abolished should be dealt with resolutely. They might be eliminated from the branch and not only "lose their competitive points." In those cases in which it is obvious that overly light sentences were meted out to defendants, the members of the adjudicating board would also be investigated for liability. Such cases have been noted before and the mistakes explained and attributed to "limited knowledge and ability" and then overlooked. Morevoer, courts should sternly review and draw upon experience in order to clarify the causes of their recent failure to adjudicate strictly and justly and to seek measures to overcome them. In adjudicating each specific case, it is imperative not only to correctly determine the crime in order to take the right punitive action, but also to firmly grasp and correctly apply the various stipulations on mitigating circumstances and suspended execution of sentences.

Council of Ministers Holds Regular April Meeting

BK0105102792 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Apr 92

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a regular meeting in April 1992 under the direction of Phan Van Khai, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers to discuss external relation economic planning and some draft bills.

In the past, together with the issuance of decisions to strengthen the state management over the external economic management, the Council of Ministers had instructed the drafting of new economic plans based on the external economic policy outlined by the seventh national party congress for a complete guideline in this area.

At the meeting, the Council of Ministers focused their discussion on important national economic subjects; world and regional economic backgrounds, their trends of development, and their impacts on our economy; and our country's ability to seize new opportunities to overcome harsh economic challenges. The council also discussed major directions of external economic development, cooperation and import-export market and services, measures to attract foreign capital and technical investment in important areas and fields, and orientations to develop external economic activities. It stressed that the field of external economic relations has a very important role in our economy and the developing of the external economic relations must meet the targets of the socioeconomic development strategy.

The council also debated some draft bills with the participation of the chairman of the National Assembly Judiciary Committee. The bills include a draft on the environment to adjust the effects of human beings and society to environmental ingredients, biological systems, and housing and production areas for keeping the environment cleaner and more stable. It also discussed a veterinary draft bill to prevent and cure animal diseases, control animal epidemics and products, check animal slaughter and sanitation, and supervise animal breeding and veterinary medicine. At the meeting, the council also discussed a draft bill on biological protection and control to protect biological resources for safeguarding production, increasing productivity, and improving the biological environment.

The Council of Ministers held that the issuance of the bills will meet the urgent requirements of the present situation. The bills are the legislative foundation for the amendment of weak management in concerned areas. They also allow the government to unitedly manage these areas and make all citizens and social organizations feel more responsible in protecting and improving the environment and observing regulations on veterinary and biological control. Any violation causing danger to life and production must be properly dealt with according to the laws.

The council contributed many views to the contents of the draft bills and particularly emphasized the effectiveness of the bills. Therefore, together with the amendment of the bills before presenting them to the National Assembly and Council of State, all responsible organs must quickly prepare to issue regulations on guidelines for the implementation of the bills and plan activities to solve urgent issues arising from the bills.

Council of State Issues Communique on Meeting

BK0305154392 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 3 May 92

[Council of State's communique on its 2 May meeting]

[Text] The Council of State met on 2 May under the direction of chairman Vo Chi Cong.

1. Implementing resolution of the Eighth National Assembly's 11th session and the law on election of National Assembly deputies, the Council of State has decided on the number and the constituencies and the number of deputies to be elected from each constituency throughout the country. The constituencies and number of deputies to be elected from each constituency will be made public according to law.

2. The Council of State heard a report on the results of the Eighth National Assembly's 11th session held during 24 March-15 April 1992. The Council of State has highly appraised the results of this session. After more than 20 days of work in an urgent and serious fashion and with the high sense of responsibility, the National Assembly approved the SRV 1992 Constitution, the law on organization of the National Assembly, and the law on the election of National Assembly deputies. It also reviewed and made decisions on a number of other important issues. The Council of State warmly commended countrymen and combatants throughout the country for their efforts in exercising the obligations of citizens and for enthusiastically discussing and providing valuable ideas to the revised constitution, thereby concretely contributing to the splendid success of the National Assembly session.

3. The Council of State heard a report on results of the official friendship visit to Japan during 19-25 April by our National Assembly delegation led by its chairman Le Quang Dao. The Council of State welcomed the visit saying it has helped strengthen the friendship and understanding between the national assemblies and peoples of the two countries.

4. Implementing resolution of the Eighth National Assembly's 11th session, the Council of State has decided on a program of action from now to September 1992 with emphasis on the implementation of the SRV 1992 Constitution and the organization of the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly scheduled on 19 July 1992.

12-Day Seminar on Economy Ends 1 May

BK0105155792 Hong Kong AFP in English 1447 GMT 1 May 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 1—The seminar on the economy of vietnam closed here today after 12 days' sitting. The seminar was jointly sponsored by the office of the Council of Ministers and the government's commission for organization and personnel, with financial support from the economic development institute of the World Bank (EDI/WB), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and some foreign countries.

The seminar was attended by nearly 38 representatives of the UNDP the World Bank EDI/WB, the International Monetary Fund, the Asian Development Bank, and some countries in Southeast Asia.

In particular, senior officials of some countries and scientists of world renown also attended as guests of the Vietnamese Government.

The participants discussed major probbems facing the renovation process and policy-making of Vietnam, especially in the economic development strategy, such as macroeconomic management, financial policy, budget management, monetary policy and banking experiences in curbing inflation, relations between the center and the localities and among the ministries, the ministerial mechanism, etc.

Ho Chi Minh City Meeting To Mark Liberation Day

BK3005153992 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT 30 Apr 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 30—More than 5,000 representatives of the Ho Chi Minh City people attended a mass meeting in the city this morning to mark the 17th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam (April 30) and May Day.

Among those present on this occasion were State Council Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho, secretary of the City Party Committee Vo Tran Chi, General Vo Nguyen Giap, chairman of the City People's Council Le Khac Binh, and Mayor Nguyen Vinh Nghiep.

In his speech, Le Khac Binh reviewed the city's achievements in many fields over the past 17 years, and pointed to the socio-economic orientations and tasks to be realised in 1992 and the following years, in order to boost production, create more jobs, and improve the living conditions of the working people.

Earlier on April 29, a joint delegation of the City Party Committee, the People's Council, the People's Committee and the Fatherland Front paid a floral tribute at the city cemetery.

Exhibitions and other cultural functions were also arranged in the city and in Can Tho Province on this occasion.

Australia

Dalai Lama Visit Stresses Human Rights in Tibet

To Meet Prime Minister 8 May

BK0505142092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1012 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Canberra, May 5 (AFP)—Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating is to meet the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, in Canberra on Friday, his office said Tuesday.

The meeting is likely to upset China, which has protested to the Foreign Ministry here about the Dalai Lama's two-week visit to Australia, saying he was "engaged in political activities aimed at splitting China."

A statement issued by Keating's office said the prime minister's meeting with the Dalai Lama would be private. It would also acknowledge the Tibetan leader's prominence as a religious figure and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Earlier Tuesday, the Dalai Lama was awarded an honorary doctorate of laws by Melbourne University.

In a speech of acceptance, he told a large audience that he regarded the degree "as recognition of the efforts I've been making" for world peace and to persuade mankind to care for the earth.

The degree citation referred to the entry of Chinese communist troops into Tibet in 1950, and said the Dalai Lama had proposed a peaceful solution which would go a long way to satisfying Chinese interests.

"It would be difficult to cite any historical example of a minority's struggle to secure its rights, in which a more conciliatory attitude to the adversary has been adopted than in the case of the Dalai Lama," the citation said.

The Dalai Lama said all nations had a duty to care for the earth to remedy the world's polluted air and water.

The Dalai Lama arrived in Perth, Western Australia, last Tuesday for a tour which will take in all six states and the federal capital.

On Monday night, a crowd of about 15,000 filled the National Tennis Centre in Melbourne to hear the Dalai Lama declare that "human beings are not machines, but something more."

He asserted that "material comforts are not sufficient to satisfy us," and declared that his involvement in politics was necessary for Tibet's national and cultural survival.

He added that he would never use violence in his struggle against the Chinese government.

The Dalai Lama's tour ends in Sydney next Tuesday.

Meets Foreign Minister Evans

BK0605120492 Hong Kong AFP in English 1153 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Canberra, May 6 (AFP)—Concerns about human rights in Tibet would continue to be pressed by Australia, exiled Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama was told by Foreign Minister Gareth Evans, officials said here on Wednesday.

But Evans, who met the Dalai Lama in spite of warnings from Beijing that direct dialogue could damage relations, said Australia would continue to recognise China's sovereignty over Tibet.

Canberra maintains that talks with the Dalai Lama are not political and have been organised because of his status as a major religious leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

The Dalai Lama, who fled to India in 1959, nine years after Chinese Communist troops moved into Tibet, is to meet Prime Minister Paul Keating on Friday.

Human rights and the political situation in China dominated the 45-minute meeting between Evans and the Dalai Lama, officials said.

Tibetan independence supporters claim Beijing is responsible for continuing human rights abuses, including the deaths of more than one million Tibetans in the past 30 years.

Evans told the Dalai Lama he was concerned about the "unhappy" situation in Tibet and was sympathetic to Tibetan claims about human rights and the loss of Tibetan culture, officials said.

They said Evans stressed that Australia had raised human rights concerns with China on a number of occasions and would continue to do so.

Evans had said that while Australia accepted China's claims to Tibet, the government would press for a meeting between Beijing leaders and the Dalai Lama as an important step towards improving life for Tibetans.

The discussion also considered whether continuing political evolution in China could lead to an improvement in China's approach to human rights issues, officials said.

Immigration Bill Seeks To Control Boat People

BK0505144092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1047 GMT 5 May 92

[Text] Canberra, May 5 (AFP)—The Australian parliament on Tuesday began rushing through a bill to cut off attempts by Cambodian illegal migrants to seek release from detention centres through the courts.

The government bill, which had opposition support, was passed by the House of Representatives and was expected to go to the Senate later Tuesday.

Officials said Governor-General Bill Hayden would be asked to sign it into law on Wednesday, a day before the federal court is to start hearing appeals from 37 Cambodian boat people who have been detained for up to two years.

"The government is determined that a clear signal be sent that migration to Australia may not be achieved by simply arriving in this country and expecting to be allowed into the community," Immigration Minister Gerry Hand said.

The boat people are being held at detention centres in Sydney and Port Hedland, in Western Australia, pending a review of a decision to repatriate them.

In a strongly worded speech, Hand hit out at critics of the immigration review procedures and said the government would not deviate from established procedures.

"We are trying to process these people quickly and we will," he said. "But the process is going to be adhered to."

He said he would resign rather than accept "manipulation or sleight of hand about this process."

Hand said legal procedures prevented him from elaborating on the case of the Cambodians, but he added that he did not accept fault for the delay in refugee processing, either by the department, its officers or himself.

"I will defend my officers vigorously," he said.

Singling out "lawyers, churchmen, citizens and applicants," Hand said: "Everybody better be on notice we are acting in the best interests of this nation and of the applicants and I expect support for that but I will not be pressurised by anybody while I am in control."

Hand said that, if it became law, the bill would ensure that no migrants would be held in custody for more than nine months.

The most important aspect of the bill was that a court would not be able to interfere with a period of custody, he said.

"No law other than the Constititution will have any impact on it," Hand said.

Opposition immigration spokesman Philip Ruddock said the coalition of the Liberal and National parties support the quick passage of the Migration Amendment Bill 1992 through parliament.

Boat people already in Australia will be "in the new custody" from the date the bill receives assent, Hand said.

He described the bill as an interim measure and said he would recommend to the Cabinet a "comprehensive" program of amendments to legislation to deal with the entry, detention and removal of unauthorised immigrants in a simpler, clearer and fairer way.

The bill clarifies entrance procedures for migrants to Australia and increases penalties for illegal immigrants.

The Refugee Council of Australia described the bill as an "outrageous action."

Council president Jefferies Foale said in a statement late Tuesday:

"The government are simply trying at the 11th hour to legislate themselves out of a difficult situation."

"In so doing, they are attempting to pre-empt the decision of the court and avoid scrutiny of their treatment of the asylum seekers during the excessive period of detention."

Keating on Khmer Rouge Attacks in Cambodia

BK0605055292 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Paul Keating, says the latest attacks by the Khmer Rouge against Cambodian government positions will not significantly affect the United Nations peacekeeping efforts. Australia's parliamentary oppostion has expressed concern about the safety of Australian troops in Cambodia and that only one quarter of the proposed 16,000-strong UN force has been deployed.

Speaking in parliament, Mr. Keating described the Khmer Rouge attacks on Kompong Thom Province as disturbances similar to previous cease-fire violations.

[Begin Keating recording] There have been disturbances—renewed violence—by the Khmer Rouge in Kompong Thom Province as there was a few weeks ago. The government takes these seriously because of their implications for the peacekeeping efforts, but there is no suggestion at this stage that the UN general peacekeeping effort in Cambodia will be significantly affected by these occasional outbreaks and violations. [end recording]